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# The Independent.

"BUT AS WE WERE ALLOWED OF GOD TO BE PUT IN TRUST WITH THE GOSPEL, EVEN SO WE SPEAK, NOT AS PLEASING MEN BUT GOD, WHICH TRIETH OUR HEARTS."

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## SHAPE.

Oh, hidden secret of all things!
Thy triumph, most triumphant, brings
No sound or syllable of name
To mark the law by which it came;
The subtle point of difference,
Which made the joy of joy intense,
The grief of grief too great to bear,
Beauty than beauty's self more fair.

No skill does more, at best, than work
Blindly, in hope to find where lurk
Thy undiscovered charm and spell;
No prophecies thine hour foretell;
No hindrances thine hour avert;
No purpose brings thee good or hurt;
Thy life knows not of wish or will;
Inherent growths thy growth fulfill.

No man dared say to curve, to line,
"Be beautiful, by word of mine!
I crown thee lovely on the earth!
I am thy Lord of life and birth."
Before all men the line, the curve
Stood suddenly and said:

"Preserve
What joy ye can. Oh, blind of eye!
Behold us once before ye die!"

Oh, hidden secret of all things!
Oh, kingdom earlier than kings!
Before earth was, yea, and before
The Heavens, Eternity foreclose
All hands, wailing each sign and bond,
For seal of thee, to set beyond
All time's impatience the decree
And record of thy sovereignty!

H. H.

## WINE AT NEW YEAR'S.—WHY!

BY SCHUYLER COLFAX,
VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

On the opening day of the New Year we reach another mile-stone on the journey of life. It is a time to look back at the history of the twelvemonth of the Old Year—a history that cannot again be lived over; a history that, whether for good or evil, is recorded on the tablets of the unreturning and irrevocable Past. It is a time to make resolutions for the future, learning wisdom from the errors of earlier years; to dedicate ourselves to deeds of benevolence and of generous humanity; to make our fellow-creatures around us happier, and not sadder, by our example and our works.

It is, too, or should be, an era of joy. There should be joy in the family-circle, joy in our own hearts. The weeks and months of the New Year lie before us, unspotted by any evil acts of ours. They will be full of opportunities for happiness, for usefulness, for progress, and for every good word and work. They are a *tabula rasa* as yet; and the pen which is to write our deeds is in our own hands.

With the New Year comes also its great social feature. In all our cities and towns the New Year's calls are almost an universal custom. From the Executive Mansion at Washington, through all classes of society, the doors stand open for visitors. Intimate friends cross the threshold, over which they so often step, to tender the good wishes which they feel in their hearts. The man of business, so immersed in stocks and merchandise as to find but little time for the cultivation of the social amenities, thinks over the roll-call of his acquaintances, and hastens from house to house to renew the old-time associations. The young men, just entering on active life, go together to visit the friends of each, and thus to widen the circle of their society for the coming year. "Happy New Year to one and all" is on millions of lips, and the welcome responds quickly and heartily to the greeting. Woman is queen to-day; and man acknowledges it by his joyous obedience to her allegiance, by forsaking his worldly cares, hastening to her presence, and tendering her his warmest wishes.

On no day in the revolving year has she so much power, such influence for good with those who lay the offerings of their respectful courtesy or their affectionate regard at her feet. How should she wield that influence? How should she use that power? Most certainly *not* for harm.

I pass over the opportunity it gives her to drop a timely word of kindly counsel, that may bring forth good fruit in the coming months, for I intend to allude only to what is indicated in the caption of this article. Let her remember the prayer she learned to utter at her mother's knee:

"LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION."

How can she ever utter it sincerely in her petitions, if she violates it in her action to-day? How can she ask to be guarded by the Divine Power from all the dangers and the snares of temptation, if she herself tempts kinsmen and friends and visitors with that which Inspiration tells us so truly at last biteth like the serpent and stingeth like the adder. How can she ask for sympathy if what she proffers to others' lips at last comes to her own family-circle, to strike at her heart, her love, her very life of happiness and joy?

Of all the victims of intemperance, woman feels most keenly its miseries. The drunkard has his maddened hours of intoxicating delirium. He drinks "to drown his sorrows," to banish care, to enjoy a temporary enthusiasm, with what bitter results the world well knows. But his wife and children have not even this wretched consolation, if consolation it can be called. They realize its bitterness only. Love turned to hatred, affection giving place to abuse, caresses changed to blows, competency exchanged for destitution, happiness forever lost, and misery reigning supreme—such is *their* lot.

But the answer to this is "that our friends are too intelligent, too well-grounded in the habits of their lives, to be in danger of falling into such temptation." All around us, however, are examples that prove the unutterable fallacy of such arguments, the utter unreliability of such confidence. No man since the world began ever became a drunkard without first being a moderate, a very moderate drinker. Whoever sets his face against the last never falls a victim to this foe of our race. And the saddest pages of history teach us still more that neither talents, nor wealth, nor social position, nor literary culture, nor political honors, nor national fame have been potential enough to save from this thralldom. As Death so often seems to love a shining mark, so does this enemy.

Why, then, at this festive and joyous era, should woman proffer the wine-cup to her visitors? Accepted (and how hard for many to refuse when proffered by woman's hand and bright eyes bid you drink), it may be the first step in the downward road; and the second, and the third, on to the last, are all easier after the first step is taken. No, ladies; better in every way banish it from the refreshment-tables over which you preside. Realize, if any visitor of yours totters home at night with clouded brain and unsteady step, that yours is not the responsibility of his first delirium. And frankly say to those who come, with warm hearts and cordial words, to wish for you and yours "the happiest year of all your lives," that you have abstained from this too popular New Year's usage to show that you wish for them in return a year unmarred by the multiplied sorrows that the wine-cup has brought to the world.

## THE TRUE SOURCE OF WAGES.

BY GAIL HAMILTON.

There has been much talk lately about raising the wages of the women who are employed in the United States Treasury; and those senators and representatives who favored the measure are spoken of as friendly to the women cause, and those who opposed it as being ungallant. Such talk is well enough for badinage; but it can never rise to the level of argument. Nothing seems clearer or fairer than that for the same work women ought to be paid the same wages as men. But it is a commercial ought, and not a moral ought. If trade says No, it is not the province of morals to say Yes. It is not the province of morals to have any say about it. Morality has not to make the rules of trade; but it may help to keep them. It has not to regulate the price of labor or of merchandise; though it may enforce the fair and prompt payment of that price. It does not prescribe the terms of the contract; though it demands that there shall be no concealment of conditions, no evasion of meaning, no violation of pledges. Women ought to receive the same wages for the same work as men, if they can get it. But the ought is to be enforced by the power of women, not extracted from the compassion of men. Until then nothing is granted. A single employer here or there may be moved by conscientious scruples to pay men and women the same wages; but so long as it turns on a man's conscience it is local, temporary, not to be depended on. It is no more a victory for the "woman's cause" than when a man gives a poor woman a dollar in the street. Women-workers have gained no vantage-ground until they are in a condition to dictate terms, instead of receiving bounty.

The United States Government is like any private employer, except that it has only a derivative power, and is therefore more limited in action. If a private employer chooses from conscientious motives to pay nine hundred dollars for work that can be equally well done for six, he has a right to gratify himself. He pays the cost out of his own pocket, and it is nobody's affair but his own. I question if the Government has a right to pay more than the market-price for labor. It is not spending its own money, but that of the people. It is not set up in business for itself; but it is the agent of the people. It may not transcend its proper bounds in trying social experiments to some extent; but there are certain principles which seem to be settled, and which have therefore passed beyond the province of experiment, and one of these is the eternity and self-sufficiency of the law of demand and supply. The question of work and wages is not to be tampered with. It needs only to be let alone to adjust itself. The Government is concerned only to get its work well done. It should employ the best of servants, and pay the price which it is obliged to pay. It has no right to put its wages so low that it can secure only incompetent servants; and it has no right to put its wages any higher than is necessary to secure the best service. If it pays the Treasury women so little that only inferior women offer themselves, and, in consequence, only inferior work is done, it is an unfaithful steward, a squanderer of the people's money. If at the price it now pays it secures perfect and permanent service, has it a right to pay more, out of deference to an abstract idea, whether that idea be of justice or mercy? It is no reason against a rise in salary that plenty of women can be found who will work at the low wages. Probably no salary in the country can be reduced so low that some man or woman will not be ready to take the office; but the salary may be made so small that only a very poor sort of person will think it worth while. Such reduction would be the worst kind of extravagance. Neither is it necessarily a reason for the rise of salary that the women will otherwise resign, since there may be twice as many women in waiting who would perform the work equally well; and, unless the change would amount to more than the desired increase of salary, Government would have no right to grant the increase.

An argument brought forward against the proposed increase of salary is that the women themselves did not desire it, and had sent in requests to members of Congress not to grant it; but this also is vanity. The most thoughtless person must surmise that some sort of cat is hidden under such meal. People never really want less money than they can honestly get; and when a workman petitions for smaller wages, it is an indirect way of gaining some other object. So in this case it appears, upon close questioning, that the outside pressure upon the Treasury is already so great that the occupants have all they can do to hold their own; and, if the salary be increased, they fear they will succumb and be swept away altogether. But this is turning the world upside down, indeed. One would not blame the women. It is not to be expected that a weak swimmer, struggling against the tide, should be philosophical; but it would be blameworthy, indeed, if cool, grave, dispassionate legislators should frame any law on pretexts so simply ridiculous.

Whichever way the question is decided by Government is of no general importance, so long as it is decided by Government. When women can demand of their employers any fixed price, and can afford to leave them unless that price is paid, the victory is gained, the staff is in their own hands. Then their price will be paid, and they will have no more complaints to make of injustice. But any liberality or any increase of wages that comes only from an employer's sense of justice or benevolent disposition is of no more account in the solution of the problem than so much money bestowed in charity. It is another form of dependence. It is not a step toward independence.

## THE HARTFORD CONVENTION.

A POLITICAL AND SOCIAL CONTRAST.

BY PROF. TAYLER LEWIS.

We make history so fast that we have little time to study it. Hence it is that things of highest importance, and that happened not long ago, are rapidly passing out of the public mind. Such is getting to be the fate of the once famous Hartford Convention. It is not essential to our present argument to go into any detailed examination of the causes that led to that event. The parties engaged maintained, and doubtless felt, that they had grievances. Among these it is sufficient to mention the three embargoes of 1807, 1812, and 1813; all brought about by the preponderating Southern influence that then, and long afterward, ruled the nation. Along with these came the War of 1812. Right or wrong, they were exceedingly hurtful to the commerce and shipping interests of New England—the very life and livelihood, we may say, of that section of our land. The alleged injury was aggravated by the fact that it was forced upon them by the uncommercial district of the country—cotton, at that time, having not yet attained the importance it afterward acquired. It may be said of the embargoes, too, that no political measures, with the exception perhaps of the fugitive slave law, ever so deeply affected state rights, real or alleged. They were adjudged to be constitutional on the ground of "the general welfare," though many of the ablest lawyers maintained with great force that the clause "to regulate commerce" could not be fairly construed as giving a power to *prohibit* or *destroy*. Be this as it may, no enactment, with the exception before mentioned, ever so cut to the quick that feeling of state independence which afterward became predominant among those who at this early day, and again in a time still nearer our own, so ruthlessly insulted it. Think of embargoes and fugitive slave laws in connection with any idea of state sovereignty as maintained by Seymour, Stephens, and the Kentucky politicians! Let those, too, who complain of a high tariff, as at war with the same idea, place it, for a moment, by the side of this other grievance: the total suppression of all trade for nearly two years, every port hermetically sealed, loaded ships rotting at the wharves, coasting vessels and even fishermen put under the most stringent bonds to prevent any of the fruits of our trade, or our industry, reaching the ports of nations with whom we were in a state of profound peace. This was then the Democratic idea of "state rights," even as it afterward exhibited itself in that other summary process which utterly nullified the common law process of state courts, and in that abominable decision which, in favor of the universality of a state-made slavery, trampled under foot or limited to the narrowest bounds every claim of a state-made citizenship.

The opposition of New England to these measures, and to the war so closely connected with them, became very strong. In its excess it may have assumed the appearance of faction. The discontent culminated, at last, in the Hartford Convention, a proceeding whose defense our argument does not demand. Suffice it to say that this meeting resulted in no injury to the nation. It never caused the shedding of one drop of blood; it made no widows and orphans; it never added a farthing's weight to our national debt, or made the poor man poorer by rendering necessary a burden of taxation most grievously affecting all the labor of the land. It made a mark, however, in our history, and resulted in the condemnation and severe opprobrium of all who took part in the transaction.

Now, we had studied this Hartford Convention proceeding before; but late circumstances have induced a still more careful examination. Every sentence of their preamble and resolutions has been closely scanned, to discover, if possible, the treason that might be lurking in them. Our search has been in vain. It would require the highest magnifying power of party prejudice to find a trace, even of what is called the "constructive" kind. There was, undoubtedly, strong feeling, excessive partisanship, preventing their seeing things fairly or reasoning about them in a dispassionate spirit; their course might, perhaps, be styled factious, or even seditious, in its tendency; and this is putting the case in the worst light for them. But there was no treason, even in words. There was not the shadow of any "overt act"; there was nothing that amounted to nullification even, much less any threat of secession. They complained of grievances, as, with causes far less, and with language far more fiercely treasonable, Southern conventions have done again and again (and that, too, with perfect impunity), in our strangely inconsistent and most one-sided history. In a word, they were *sectional*. Alleged grievances, and a strong sense of injury, had converted some of the most national of our national founders into jealous and complaining "state rights" men. They had allowed party feeling, arising out of strong local feeling, to impair for a season that higher sense of national loyalty for which New England before, as since, had been most distinguished. This was their offense; no more.

"It was a grievous fault,
And grievously they answered it."

It is true, they did not go a step beyond strong and, perhaps, intemperate remonstrance; but the time was ill-chosen, and they were condemned by public sentiment, as having instituted proceedings that had the appearance of disunion. To this sentence they yielded, as to something politically healthy in its tone, even if they did not admit the full justice of its application.

From these preliminaries, thus briefly presented, two contrasts vividly suggest themselves. The one has reference to the course of parties; the other, to the individual action. The Democratic party ever made the most of the Hartford Convention. Politically, it may be said to have lived on it. Whatever fault there may have been, it certainly had the palliation of the state rights feeling; and yet, from 1814 down to the firing upon Sumter, did this hypocritical "state-rights" party, calling itself Democratic, and false alike to both names, keep their swart hounds open-mouthed upon this scent. Sumter muzzled them; but even now would they be keeping up their cry of disunion, treason, "death by the articles of war," if it were not that the haunting specter of this most bloody Southern treason, and their own intimate alliance with it, had shamed them into silence. It was like their talk when the miserable slave was dragged in chains through the streets of Boston. The Union must be preserved, they said; the law must be enforced. Even if it require the whole army and navy of the United States, and Boston is laid in ashes, that slave must be carried back to his master. What is Boston, what is Massachusetts, with her claim of state protection, to the majesty of the Federal Constitution? Perish both state and city, rather than set aside one jot or tittle of that sacred instrument. Such was then the literal language of men whom we have since heard whining about "our Southern brethren," and "fratricidal war," and the unconstitutionality of any attempt "to preserve the Constitution by force," and the special enormity of "coercing a sovereign state." Hanging—hanging under the articles of war—such was the sentence pronounced in the one case, where the treason was almost invisible. So swore the Democratic chieftain, and so applauded the Democratic leaders, who are now demanding for rebellion the remission of all forfeiture, moral and social, as well as penal. It is not simply the sparing of life and property—that the nation has already done with a magnanimity to which history shows no parallel; it is not simply pardon that is claimed; but *amnesty* (*amnésicia*), forgetfulness, oblivion of all demerit, full restoration to all the high places of the land. They are to be congressmen again, and judges, and candidates, it may be, for the presidential chair. They are to legislate for the nation they did their best to destroy; they are to decide on the claims of widows and orphans whom their own hands have made; they are to be trusted in providing ways for the payment or the repudiation of the heavy debt their own most causeless and bloody treason has rendered necessary. We would not moralize upon it. The bare statement of the case is sufficient. The act would be *wrong*, unjust; and no seeming expediency could ever make it *right*, or truly expedient. It would be demoralizing to the national conscience. It would sink at once that high moral ground which gave support and strength to the almost superhuman exertions required for the suppression of this dire rebellion. There is no moral fallacy more mischievous than this attempt to throw a mantle over the most atrocious crimes, by giving them the name of "political offenses." We may well ask, in the words of Scripture: "Who slew all these? Who filled our land with graves and our houses with mourning?" There has been a great crime committed somewhere, and it cannot be condoned by any empty formulas of speech. The moral sense in respect to all crime must fall with such impunity, and the greater calamity than this can happen to a people. No damage that falls within the statistics of political economy can be compared with it. On the score of expediency, too, there is an imperative demand that the treatment of this case should be such as to make it a high warning example in the very beginning of our national history, lest treason should become too cheap, and the atrociousness of seeking the life of such a government as ours should dwindle down, as it seems to be now dwindling, to the idea of a mere party strife. It has been called a civil war; but even that name, bad as it sounds, falls short of its atrocity. A civil war is a violent contest for supremacy *in* a nation, leaving the nationality untouched. This was an attempt to destroy its very existence. It was not mere constitution-breaking; but national murder. Let our politicians look to it. Acute as they may deem themselves, they have read history in vain if they do not see that on the true idea entertained of this opening case depends the question whether it shall stand alone, or be the introduction to a long series of such "civil wars," or "political differences," if they choose to call them so. Five short years since half a million lives were required to save us from national destruction; and it is proposed to throw the mantle of amnesty, of oblivion, over the whole of it—to act as though it had never been. This cannot be done. It will appear again in its direful consequences. Most fallacious is the idea that our civilization, our railroads, our political economy, our newspapers, or even our nominal Christianity, have made us an exception to the course of human history, or rendered useless to us the solemn warning that comes from other republics. A civil war permitted to pass with impunity never stands alone. Still more certain is it to generate others, if its actors are not only unpunished, but restored to a participation, and, as happens in almost every case, to a supremacy in national affairs.

We have dwelt upon the public contrast presented by the Hartford Convention and the late Rebellion. There is another, no less striking, when we think of the different courses pursued by the individual actors. The leaders of the New England Conference, as we have said, yielded to the public condemnation. Their offense was microscopic, indeed, as compared with that of the disciples of Calhoun; but they felt the disapprobation of their countrymen, and retired from public life. If they had only thought treason in their souls, or were so adjudged, it was deemed improper by themselves, as well as by others, that they should ever resume their places in the national councils. George Cabot, Nathan Dane, William Prescott, Harrison Gray Otis, Timothy Bigelow, Stephen Longfellow, Daniel Waldo, Chauncey Goodrich, James Hillhouse, and their associates, never afterward held any national office, or took any prominent part even in local politics. They had been conspicuous members of the National Senate; but their voices were never afterward heard in "the great assemblies." They never sought office. Wholly retired from public scenes, they gave themselves to literature, to theology, to philosophy, or to the improvement of the social life immediately around them. Their names, well known before, have been made illustrious in the literary career of some of their descendants. But for themselves they never sought office. This is their crowning distinction, their atoning merit, we may say, if they had done that which required atonement. *They never sought office.* This, too, furnishes the striking point of contrast between them and the actors in this serious South[illegible] Compare them in this respect with Toombs, and Wise, and Stephens. How noble, how Romanlike the attitude they ever maintained. Think of Harrison Gray Otis in his dignified retirement, and then of the foul-mouthed Vance, bolsterously demanding his seat in the Senate, his hands yet reeking with the blood of men, not slain in battle—Union men, whom he adjudged to death, or caused to be so adjudged, for no other crime than their fidelity to the national allegiance—men to whom he gave no *amnesty*, though he now demands it for himself, with no confession of wrong, but in a spirit of insolent bravado. Most valuable, indeed, is the political lesson we learn from this; but no less impressive is the view it gives us of the difference between the boasted Southern chivalry and that New England nobleness which the Wises and the Vances at the South, with the Seymours and the Vallandighams of the North, have so labored to disparage and revile.

## TRISTIA.

BY RACHEL FORENOT.

Go not, Spirit of sad and brooding eyes,
Until I read again
Wherein the secret of thy sadness lies,
And what thy thought of pain!

Though thus I do but confradict my heart,
That wishes thee away,
Knowing too well thou never dost depart
When thou hast learned to stay.

And yet fain would I reckon thee my guest—
Who art my master grown—
And urge thy stay with hypocrite unrest,
That longs to be alone;

Thinking, To-day, yet one last day, she waits;
To-morrow I am free;
She'll snap behind her the impatient gates,
And leave my soul to me.

So once again, with lying courtesies,
I mock my own desires,
Till twilight, darkling over tender skies,
Has quenched the sunset fires.

And yet she lingers; yet have I no heart
To whisper: Being late,
'Twere better thou shouldst presently depart;
I will not bid thee wait.

For something on her lip, or in her eye,
Rebukes my churlish thought;
It may be a reproachful sympathy,
That other eyes have not;

A subtler vision reaching to my soul,
And reading all I know,
Till I am pressed with passionate uncontrol,
And fear to let her go.

But thus together we watch out the night,
My awful guest and I,
Till daylight, leaning over Eastern bars,
Has thrilled the rosy sky.

Or, if sleep take me, that I slide to rest,
She watches through my dream;
Nay, draws me gently to her elder breast,
Till sealed in one we seem.

She came but seldom first, this Spirit fine;
Would bide an hour or so,
Possess me with her mood, or borrow mine,
Then, ere I noted, go;

Till I had learned to find her coming sweet,
As all new things are fair;
And almost grew to listen for her feet,
And grieve they came so rare.

But presently she took a sterner face,
Later she smiled no more;
And then I knew her name and date and race,
And rose to shut my door.

I shut it fast; I drew the bolt across;
I turned the dreadful key.
I said: She comes no more, this shape of loss,
To sup and sleep with me!

When, lo! she waited, patient, at my side,
Locked close with me alone,
That since have every other guest denied,
To entertain this one!

She is not hateful-browed, nor grim of mien;
She seems to like me, too;
Sometimes I think no other friend has been,
Or could be, half so true.

Sometimes imagine I might miss her sore,
If once she were to go;
And they, neglected, should return no more
I slighted years ago.

For we are grown like faithful intimates;
Too sensitive and strong
The interlacing fiber of our fates
To live asunder long.

We sound abysses of glad suffering,
Enjoy divinest woes;
No diet of stale happiness could bring
Us ecstacies like these!

She gives me wine crushed out of bitter grapes;
Such nectar as they know
In sullen Hades—melancholy shapes
Of gods and ghosts below.

And thus, full loath to lose her from my sight,
Yet vext to see her stay,
With this rare guest I wear away the night
And fret the wasting day.

Though verily the consecrating years
Hallow that Presence plain;
And high Divinities attest the tears
Of her whose name is Pain!

ROME, ITALY, November, 1870.

## LOUIS BLANC.

BY GEORGE M. TOWLE.

In March of the present year the writer had occasion, on business, to visit Louis Blanc at his residence in London. The exile—at first an enforced, but latterly a voluntary exile—resided in a modest brick house, and in a modest, narrow street, in that highly respectable quarter of London, the vicinity of Postman Square, Upper Montague street. Near by lives Wilkie Collins, and not far off is Orchard street, where Sheridan lived when he came up to town a poor and unknown youth. It is a quiet quarter, well suited to those literary pursuits to which M. Blanc mostly confined himself while living in England. When he entered the modest drawing-room, which in adornment was rather French than English, it was difficult to believe that this dapper, little, bright-eyed man, of not much over five feet, was the doughty champion of equality of labor in the Constituent of '48, the fearless enemy of Bonaparte, whom he had first restored to France, and still the hope of a radical party, by no means contemptible in strength or numbers. Louis Blanc, though very short, has a large, noble head, and a countenance full of vivacity and intelligence. His bright black eye is rather calm and penetrating than keen or fierce. His expression is placid and confident, self-confident, as of a man sure of his opinions and of himself. His address is mild and *bien veillant*, almost modest. So appears to his visitor this firebrand whom the friends of "order" have this twenty years feared, and against whom they have warned the people as from a devotee of the god Anarchy.

Louis Blanc little thought when this visit was made that in six months he would return in triumph to Paris—to Paris rejoicing in the loss of a perfidious emperor, mourning the loss of her great army. But he foresaw then the not distant doom of the Empire, and that the Ollivier ministry labored ineffectually to mix alkali and acid, Cæsarism and liberty. He awaited, he said, with calmness, what seemed to him an approaching bloodless revolution—one in which the Chamber would seize power and declare the throne by one act vacant and abolished. The most that he feared was, not the strength or the cunning of Bonaparte, but the moderation of Favre, the opposition of Thiers, and the bewilderment of the democratic minority.

This man, who preferred exile to perjury, which in his eyes the oath of fidelity to the Empire would have been; who at the age of thirty-five for a moment dominated the Provisional Government, and through it France; who waxed too great for his enemies, and was exiled; and who is still in the prime of his manhood, was destined yet to play a great [illegible] political history. And, [illegible] respect, his interesting to review is that part of his not a little romantic career already passed.

This French philosopher and statesman was born of Corsican parents, and in the city of Madrid. It is singular how many French leaders within the past eighty years have come from the Southern climes, so productive of imaginative, zealous, and headstrong men. Thiers, Gambetta, Favre, Ollivier, Blanc, Rollin, of the present generation; Bonaparte the Great, Rouget de Lisle, Barnave, Desmoulins, Danton, of an earlier. Blanc's mother was a Pozzo di Borgo, a famous name in Corsica, borne by diplomatists and statesmen. This chief of plebeians was himself of patrician descent. Of his youth we know little; but at nineteen he went to Paris, with literary ambition as his only capital from which to derive subsistence. He wrote strong radical articles for the Republican papers; and, luckily for himself, it was a time when Louis Phillippe tolerated, from necessity rather than choice, a free press. Next he is at Arras, where a very bold, even seditious sheet—*Le Progrès du Pas-de-Calais*—is published, impressing his aggressive doctrines through its columns. In 1838 he is again at Paris, and there founds one of the historical journals of France, whose sanctum was a center of conspiracy and the fountain of democratic inspiration throughout the land. This was the *Revue du Progrès*. There, in the last decade of Louis Phillippe's reign, you might have seen gathered many of those young men who were to end it finally, and establish the Republic. Rollin, Blanqui, Hugo, Jules Favre, occasionally doubtless Madame George Sand and Eugene Sue, met in that office, wrote in the *Revue*, and through it poisoned, as Thiers thought—educated, as they believed—the popular mind. It was in this paper that Louis Blanc first published his well-known work, "The Organization of Labor."

That the editorial profession in those days at Paris was not without its dangers may be seen by an incident which occurred in the autumn of 1839. Louis Blanc had one day written a caustic review of Louis Napoleon's, "*Idées Napoleoniennes*." The following evening, as he was returning from his office, he was attacked from behind by an unknown villain, and struck on the face with a bludgeon. A brother of his, in a distant part of France, was so impressed with the

# The Independent.

## BROAD CATALPA LEAVES ARE FALLING.

BY JOEL T. HART.

Broad catalpa leaves are falling,
And the sweet acacia pales;
Sad October's chill is breathing
On the mountains, in the vales.

There the lofty pines are moaning
For the withered flowers of Spring;
There the night's cold tears are trembling
O'er the hush of thy wing.

Streams in their low funeral voices
Bear the dead-leaf trains along;
Through the solemn woods in sadness
Birds have silenced all their song.

Hear the mournful cypress sighing,
See the fading willows weep,
As pale Autumn in her sorrow
Lays her children down to sleep.

Leaves and fountains thus in passing
Like æolian chords complain;
Thus the loved ones, stealing from us,
Like them, fall to rise again.

So in journeying on through Autumn,
Or yet only to young May,
Let us, like the leaves in falling,
Or the fountains, steal away!

FLORENCE, ITALY, October, 1870.

## RISE AND FALL OF THE SLAVE POWER IN AMERICA.*

BY HON. HENRY WILSON.

### No. XXXI.

### RIOTOUS DEMONSTRATIONS IN NEW YORK AND VERMONT.

THERE may have been nothing striking or peculiar in the fact that similar demonstrations of mob violence were exhibited and encountered by the active friends of freedom throughout the North. Like an epidemic, as perhaps it was, as there are moral epidemics, the spirit of riot seemed to rule the hour; or, more probable, the disease being generally diffused, consequently, when the proper remedy was exhibited, the disturbance became as general as the disease. Hence, on the same 21st of October on which occurred the disgraceful scenes in Boston similar demonstrations were made in Central New York and in the capital of Vermont.

On that day there assembled in the city of Utica a large and imposing convention of six hundred delegates for the purpose of forming a state anti-slavery society. The proposition for it came from Alvan Stewart, a resident of that city and president of a local association there. The courthouse had been engaged for the purpose. When it became known that the convention was to be holden in the court-house, by the consent of the city council, certain persons, styled respectable and prominent gentlemen, called a public meeting, and adopted measures for the occupation of the same room on the day the convention was to meet. Samuel Beardsley, a lawyer of that city, a Democratic member of Congress, declared in the most emphatic manner that "it would be better to have Utica razed to its foundations, to have it destroyed like Sodom and Gomorrah, than to have the convention meet here." This absurd declaration—so like the man who, in the debate on the United States Bank, won the famous soubriquet of "Perish credit, perish commerce" Beardsley—received the endorsement of the meeting; and it forthwith resolved to prevent, if possible, the assembling of the convention. That most eminent citizen of that place, Joshua A. Spencer, a lawyer of commanding ability, though not an abolitionist, strenuously opposed the measure, and vindicated the right of free discussion. When the delegates assembled, they found the court-house occupied by a crowd of excited and maddened citizens. Repairing to the second Presbyterian church, they organized the convention by the election of Judge Brewster, of Genesee County, for president, and Rev. Mr. Wetmore, of Utica, who had been a soldier of the Revolution, as secretary. Alvan Stewart reported the draft of a constitution, which was adopted, and the State Anti-Slavery Society was formed, while the crowd without was clamoring for admission. Lewis Tappan then commenced reading the declaration of sentiments. While thus engaged, the mob broke into the church and endeavored to prevent the reading; but, with his usual persistency, he continued until it was finished, when the paper was adopted by a rising vote.

A committe of twenty-five from the meeting at the court-house then came forward, headed by Judge Charles Hayden, and presented a series of condemnatory resolutions. When the resolutions had been read, the rioters, drunk with passion and poor liquor, belched forth their maledictions. The chairman of the committee, addressing the rioters as his friends, expressed the hope that they would permit the convention to answer the accusations made against it. Mr. Beardsley, too, would have his friends "exercise patience and long-suffering, even toward such an assembly as this." He wished to know what apology the convention could make. "They profess," he said, "to come here on an errand of religion; while under disguise they are hypocritically plotting the dissolution of the Union. They have been warned beforehand, have been treated with unexampled patience; and, if they now refuse to yield to our demands, and any unpleasant circumstance should follow, we shall not be responsible." His inflammatory and sedidious harangue, whether so designed or not, had the effect to further exasperate the rioters. Curses, imprecations, and blasphemies filled the air, and threats of violence were freely made and reiterated. The convention hurriedly adjourned, and members of the committee demanded of the venerable secretary the record of its proceedings. Refusing to yield the record, he was seized by the collar and threatened with violence. "A member of the committee of twenty-five," says Samuel J. May, "a man holding an important public office, raised his cane over the head of that venerable minister of the Gospel, and cried out: 'G—d d—n you. Give the papers up, or I will strike you on the head.' At this another of the committee, a young man, his son, sprang foward and begged him: 'Do, father, give them up, and save your life. Give them to me, and I will pledge myself to give them to you again.' With this Mr. Wetmore complied, and he was let off without further harm.

The mob triumphed; but the society was formed. Amid those scenes of lawlessness, brutality, and violence the constitution and declaration of sentiments were adopted, though no officers were elected; nor could any more business be transacted. In the public houses, in the streets, wherever they were seen, the members of the convention were insulted. It had been announced in advance that Lewis Tappan would be mobbed if he attended the convention. To a man like Lewis Tappan such a menace acted rather as a provocation than a dissuasive; and, though it had been his purpose not to attend, this threat made him feel that it was his duty to be there. His presence, naturally enough, and that of a few other well-known abolitionists, exasperated the rioters and excited them to more extreme violence.

* Entered according to Act of Congress, by H. O. Bowen, in the year 1870, in the District Court of the United States for the Southern District of New York.

This convention was attended by Gerrit Smith. He was not a delegate; nor did he intend to take any part in its proceedings. His large hearted benevolence and antecedents, however, prevented indifference and lack of interest in such a meeting, called for such a purpose. His father had been a gentleman of vast wealth, of great landed possessions, and a slaveholder. Though he saw slavery in its mildest forms, he early realized that it was unjust, and he had hailed the day when it was utterly extinguished in his native state. He had welcomed the Colonization Society, largely contributed to its funds; and, though his views had been modified by the discussions which had taken place, he had up to that time continued to entertain some degree of confidence in it. Becoming convinced, however, that its tendency was pro-slavery rather than anti-slavery, he paid into its treasury the balance of a subscription, amounting to three thousand dollars, and abandoned it forever. He came to the Utica convention, to see for himself. The scenes he there witnessed aroused and alarmed him. He could hesitate no longer. He felt that the time for him to act had come. He invited the members of the convention to meet in his township of Peterboro'. A portion accepted his invitation, and on their arrival there were cordially received by Mr. Smith and his neighbors. About three hundred members of the society were present, officers were elected, and its organization completed.

At that meeting Mr. Smith introduced a resolution declaring that free discussion, given by God, and asserted and guarded by the laws of the country, was a right so vital to the freedom, dignity, and usefulness of man that it could not be surrendered without consenting to exchange liberty for slavery, and dignity and usefulness for debasement and worthlessness. He supported his resolution in a speech of rare and convincing force. Placing free discussion on the basis of a divine right, he wanted men to defend it on the ground that God gave it. "It is not to be disguised," he said, "that war has broken out between the South and the North, not early to be terminated. Political and commercial men, for their own purposes, are industriously striving to restore peace; but the peace they accomplish will be superficial and hollow. True and permanent peace can only be restored by removing the cause of the war—that is, slavery. It cannot ever be established on any other terms. The sword, now drawn, will not be sheathed until the deep and damning stain is washed out from our nation. It is idle, criminal to speak of peace on any other terms." He declared that he did not wish to muster on their side, in the great battle between liberty and slavery, those who were willing to leave their countrymen to the tender mercies of slavery forever. But they wanted that class, be it ever so small, who "will stand on the rock of Christian principle." This language was discriminating and prophetic. Seldom, during the thirty years' struggle then commencing, was it ever more correctly characterized. It placed the cause on the high plane of conscience and religious obligation, and foreshadowed a peaceful solution which the fewness and lukewarmness of its friends and the madness of its foes alone prevented.

In October of the same year, Samuel J. May gave several lectures in Vermont, where he was five times mobbed. He was invited to address the Vermont Anti-slavery Society at Montpelier, during the session of the legislature. The hall of the house of representatives was obtained for his first meeting, which was held on the evening of the 20th of October. The hall was filled, many members of the legislature being present. Eggs and stones were thrown through the windows, Mr. May only pausing to say, as they passed by: "Ah, we are contending with greater evils than these." Chauncey L. Knapp, then a publisher of the *State Journal*, afterward a member of Congress from Massachusetts, here arose and appealed to the sheriff of the county, who was present, to arrest those outside who were disturbing the meeting. But that functionary shrank from the performance of that duty.

At the close of that meeting Mr. May was invited to address the people in the largest church in the village, and accepted the invitation. The next day placards were posted through the town warning the people against attending the meeting, as it would be broken up by violence. In the afternoon of that day, while gentlemen of property and standing were assaulting the Female Anti-slavery Society in Boston, and the mob in Utica was dispersing the convention there, the president of the bank, the postmaster, and five other leading citizens of the capital of Vermont addressed a letter to Mr. May, requesting him to leave the town, "without any further attempt to hold forth the absurd doctrines of anti-slavery, and save them the trouble of using any other measures to that effect." Mr. May, though a gentleman of marked gentleness of manner and speech, was not the man to be deterred from the performance of a high duty by such a request, nor by any menace, however violent.

At the hour appointed, a prayer having been offered by Rev. Mr. Hurlburt, Mr. May rose to address the meeting, which thronged the house. Scarcely had he uttered a sentence when the ringleader of the mob, Mr. Hubbard, president of the bank, rose in the midst of a gang of rowdies, and peremptorily demanded that he should refrain from speaking. To this demand Mr. May replied: "Is this the respect paid to the liberty of speech by the free people of Vermont? Let any one of your number step forward and give reasons why his fellow-citizens, who wish, should not be permitted to hear the lecture I have been invited here to deliver. If I cannot show these reasons to be fallacious, I will yield to your demand. But, for the sake of our essential rights, I shall proceed, if I can."

Then again commencing his lecture, he was assailed by boisterous outcries from Hubbard and his associates. Mr. Knapp remonstrated against such proceedings, and implored the people to desist from a proceeding so disgraceful. But his words were unheeded by the mob, which with noisy threats rushed toward the pulpit. At that moment Col. Miller, a brave coadjutor of Dr. S. G. Howe in the Greek Revolution, a man of well-known courage and great physical power, stepped forward in front of the advancing mobocrats, and said to Mr. Hubbard, their leader: "If you do not stop this outrage now, I'll knock you down." The advancing rioters were checked; but, such was the alarm, the people hurried from the house, the meeting was broken up, and the purposes of the ruffians were accomplished.

An account of these disgraceful proceedings was published by Mr. Knapp, and contributed not a little to the general awakening of the people of the state. This exposure of the rioters, and disgraceful conduct of these ringleaders, headed by a bank president, brought down upon him threats of violence; but they ended in nothing more serious than the removal of his office-sign, which was flung into the river.

These high-handed outrages, perpetrated on the same day in Boston, Montpelier, and Utica, were noised abroad; and, though deprecated and condemned by the faithful few, were generally applauded, alike at the North and South, by those who considered Abolitionists out of the pale of legal protection, and to be treated as the enemies of their country and race.

## SABBATH LAWS.

BY SAMUEL T. SPEAR, D.D.

ONE of the forms through which legislative enactments in this country are incidentally brought in contact with Christianity, as the prevalent religion of the people, we find in what are known as "Sabbath Laws," or laws that refer to the day usually observed as a period of rest from ordinary labor, and by the Christian portion of the community, in rendering acts of public worship to God. Do these laws invest Christianity, as a religious system, with legal authority, and make it an integral part of the constitutional or statute law of the land? Is this the proper inference to be drawn from Sabbath legislation?

No one, we presume, would ever think of appealing to the Constitution of the United States in support of such an inference. This instrument contains no reference to the Sabbath, except in the following clause: "If any bill shall not be returned by the President within ten days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the same shall be a law in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the Congress, by their adjournment, prevent its return, in which case it shall not be a law." It is here assumed that Congress would not be in session on Sunday, and that the President would not devote the day to public business; and, hence, in order to give him ten full business days for deliberation, Sundays are not included in the count. There surely is no approach to Sabbath legislation in this exception.

Brightly's "Digest of the Laws of the United States from 1789 to 1863" makes no reference whatever to the Sabbath as a subject of Federal legislation. The practice of Congress and the Federal courts is to adjourn on the Christian Sabbath; yet there is no law requiring it. Some years since the question of carrying the mail on the Sabbath was sharply agitated among the people; and Congress, after committing the whole subject to a special committee, declined to order a suspension of the practice. Whether it did right or wrong is a question which we do not now seek to determine. The fact is that it decided to make no distinction between this day and other days, considered in reference to carrying the United States mail. Neither in the Constitution nor in the enactments of Congress have we any provision or legislation bringing the Christian Sabbath, or the religion on which it is based, into the category of civil law.

Turning to the "Revised Statutes of the State of New York" as a guide, and also an example of state legislation on this subject, we find a series of prohibitions, penally enforced, forbidding the following things to be done "upon the first day of the week, called Sunday": (1.) The serving of any "writ, process, warrant, order, judgment, decree, or other proceeding of any court or officer of justice," with certain exceptions specified in the statute. (2.) A variety of sports, as "shooting, hunting, fishing, sporting, playing, horse-racing, gaming, frequenting tippling-houses, or any unlawful exercises or pastimes." (3.) All traveling, "unless in cases of charity or necessity," or for other excepted purposes named in the statute. (4.) All "servile labor or working," "excepting works of necessity and charity, unless done by some person who uniformly keeps the last day of the week, called Saturday, as holy time, and does not labor or work on that day, and whose labor shall not disturb other persons in their observance of the first day of the week as holy time." (5.) Public traffic in "any wares, merchandise, fruit, herbs, goods, or chattels," "except meats, milk, and fish, which may be sold before nine of the clock in the morning." (6.) The sale of "ale, porter, strong, or spirituous liquors" by grocers or tavern-keepers, "excepting to lodgers in such inns or taverns, or to persons actually traveling on that day in the cases allowed by law."

Such are the prohibitions of law in the State of New York with respect to the Christian Sabbath, found in Title VIII of the "Revised Statutes," which contains the law of the state for "the prevention and punishment of immorality and disorderly practices." The sections of this title refer to "jugglers and exhibitions of shows," "disorderly practices on public occasions and holidays," "betting and gaming," "raffling and lotteries," "racing of animals," "profane cursing and swearing," "the disturbance of religious meetings," and "the observance of Sunday." All these matters are treated of under the general head of "immorality and disorderly practices." This implies that the prohibitions in respect to the Christian Sabbath, like those in respect to "betting and gaming," "raffling and lotteries," "racing of animals," etc., are based solely on *civil* reasons, and not at all upon the religious character and claims of the day as held by those who make it a day of worship.

The commissioners who drafted a form for the penal code of the State of New York—consisting of David Dudley Field, William Curtis Noyes, and Alexander W. Bradford—make the following remark in regard to these prohibitions concerning the Sabbath: "The 'Revised Statutes' treated the observance of Sunday not among crimes, but as a branch of the internal police management of the state." The theory of these eminent jurists is that the civil law regards "the observance of Sunday" as a question pertaining to public order, and deals with it only in this character, while leaving its religious aspects solely with the consciences of the people.

This view is fully confirmed by examining the statutes themselves. Let it be distinctly noted that these laws do not create the Christian Sabbath as a day of worship, or legislatively enforce it; that they prescribe no religious observance to be practiced by the people on "the first day of the week, called Sunday"; and that they do not decide that this or any other particular day is the one which should be religiously kept. They could not do so without coming into conflict with that provision in the Bill of Rights which declares that "the free exercise and enjoyment of religious profession and worship, without discrimination or preference, is forever to be allowed in this state to all mankind." One, in the religious sense, might be a very gross Sabbath-breaker, and yet be guilty of no crime against the law of the state. All that the law requires is simply abstinence, not from those acts which defeat or violate the sacred purposes of the day; but which, if they were tolerated, would interfere with the quietude and good order of the community, in which a considerable portion of the people deem it a duty and a pleasure to spend the day in religious observances. The law simply aims to protect their rights as citizens against molestation or disturbance, and also against such acts as would be offensive to the general moral sense. The only reason why the law applies these prohibitory provisions to "the first day of the week," and not to some other day, consists in the fact that this is the day generally observed among the people as a period of rest and religious service. Those who keep "the last day of the week, called Saturday, as holy time," and do "not labor or work upon that day," are exempted from the statute against labor on the first day of the week, with the single qualification that their labor shall not be of such a kind as to "disturb other persons in their observance of the first day of the week as holy time." All this shows that the intention of the law is not to reach the religious uses and purposes of the Christian Sabbath; but simply confine it self to such prohibitions as pertain to good order and public decency, in view of the facts as they exist among the people.

In confirmation of this construction of Sabbath laws, as found in our American system, we now refer the reader to the language used by the Supreme Court of Ohio. In a case involving the validity of a contract made on the Christian Sabbath the Court said: "Thus the statute upon which the defendant relies, prohibiting common labor on the Sabbath, could not stand a moment as the law of this state if its sole foundation was the Christian duty of keeping that day holy, and its sole motive to enforce the observance of that duty. For no power over things merely spiritual has ever been delegated to the government; while any preference of one religion, as the statute would give upon the above hypothesis, is directly forbidden by the Constitution. Acts evil in their nature, or dangerous to the public welfare, may be forbidden and punished, though sanctioned by one religion and prohibited by another; but this creates no preference whatever, for they would be equally forbidden and punished if all religions permitted them."

Two years afterward, in a case involving the same general question, the Court said: "The act does not to any extent rest upon the ground that it is immoral or irreligious to labor on the Sabbath, any more than upon any other day. It simply prescribes a day of rest from motives of public policy and as a civil regulation; and, as the prohibition itself is founded on principles of policy, upon the same principles certain exceptions are made, among which are works of necessity and charity." "The principles upon which our statute rests are wholly secular, and they are none the less so because they happen to concur with the dictates of religion. Thus the day of rest prescribed by the statute is the Christian Sabbath; yet so entirely does the act rest upon grounds of public policy that it would be equally constitutional and obligatory did it name any other day, and it derives none of its force from the fact that the day of rest is Sunday." "Unless, then, we keep constantly in mind that the act rests upon public policy alone, we shall be in great danger of giving it a wrong construction; and, instead of reading it in the light of the Constitution which prohibits all religious tests and preferences, find ourselves led away from its meaning by the influence of our own peculiar theological tenets."

The conclusion we derive from this review of the question is that laws interdicting labor upon "the first day of the week," and prohibiting other things inconsistent with the quiet and order of the day, have nothing to do with the Christian Sabbath as a *religious* institution. The religious character and obligations of the day are left, just where they should be, with the individual conscience, without the slightest restraint or constraint, provided it acts within the limits of public order. Sabbath laws, in view of their reasons and limitations, clearly give no ground for assuming that the state has placed its legal imprimatur upon the religious system which creates the Sabbath, and of which this institution is so important an instrument. We believe in the divine appointment of the Sabbath, and are quite satisfied with the cumulative evidence which locates its observance upon "the first day of the week"; but in this country we have a Sabbath without any civil sanction or enforcement or any commitment of the state to that religion of which it is a part. The people are, hence, left perfectly free to exercise their rights of conscience on this subject.

## AUREOLA.

When Mary, Mother of the Holy Child,
Beheld, with wondering eyes, her burden bright,
The Star stood over, with its effluence mild,
And peaceful splendor lit the natal night;
The wise men knelt with frankincense and myrrh,
Glory to God swept onward, deep and grand,
And fluttering pinions, joyously astir,
Proclaimed good-will to men in every land.
Oh, Love divine! new-born thou ever art
When Innocence beams from its cradle-bed;
All sweet humanities bestir the heart,
The halo circling round the infant head.
To us a child is born, a Son is given,
The wonderful, to link our earth to Heaven.

E. M. O.

## WOMEN AS VICTIMS OF WAR.

BY JUNIUS HENRI BROWNE.

IT is common, almost universal, to consider war merely as it affects men; while its real and greatest victims are women. All history, public and private, recounts the courage, fortitude, and sufferings of soldiers in the field; but hardly any one thinks of the long and patient agony which the mothers and wives, the sisters and sweethearts of the soldiers are forced to endure.

There are heroes, many and great, in every battle; but away from the battle there are heroines more and greater than the world can ever know or the muse of history will ever record.

Woman's destiny, compared to man's, is hard at best; and war shows this conclusively. She shrinks from strife and conflict instinctively. Her ways are the ways of peace, and her softest and sweetest shelter is under the olive. Man, as has been said, is a military animal, delighting in gunpowder; and woman is called upon to atone with desolated life and broken heart for his ferocious nature. It is as unjust as pitiable that she should receive in her own breast the cruel arrows whose fabrication she has done her utmost to prevent.

Achilles and Hector and Ulysses were not half so much the heroes of the siege of Troy as Thetis and Andromache and Penelope were its heroines; for they bore the silent waiting, the anxious watching, and the passive agony which invariably fall to woman's lot. Every war since has repeated their experience, and will repeat it until the din of arms shall be no more.

During the present struggle between France and Germany we have admired and extolled the daring and determination of both countries. We have applauded the brilliant victories of one, and have sympathized with the disasters of the other. We have had honor for the brave, pity for the fallen, sorrow for the defeated. But, amid the clamor of conflict and the groans of the wounded and the dying, we have not heard the weeping and the wailing of the bereaved women from the Rhine to the Oder, from the Meuse to the Rhone. The stricken widows and orphans are not remembered before the external horrors of gaping wounds and gory fields.

While we regard the prowess and the peril of the actors on the stage, we forget the poor mourners behind the scenes. To us it is a pageant; to them it is a terrible reality. Their tears fall unseen and unheeded; but they are none the less bitter for that. The mourners do not bleed, their limbs are not shattered; yet their suffering is far greater than that of the men whom steel has cut and shot have struck. Healing or death will kindly come to these; but for those is only the slow torture of broken hope and affections rent in twain.

Fate has ordained that woman must pay the penalty of man's follies, faults, and crimes. He errs, and she is punished. He strikes, and on her falls the blow returned. No man, however lowly, insignificant, or worthless, can isolate himself from the sisterhood of the race. The meanest wretch that crawls must have had a mother; and it often happens that he who is rude and vile and coarse is mated with her who is gentle, pure, and fine. An unknown woman decked Nero's tombs with flowers; and Milonia Cæsonia begged for death from the assassins of her husband, the cruelest tyrant humanity has known.

Of the hundreds of thousands who marched through France and Germany to the battle's front, each and all bore some woman's kisses and affection, some woman's happiness and blessing. Imagine, then, the crushing woe and dark despair which must have gone out from the fields of slaughter to desolated hearths and shattered homes.

There was a pomp of banners at Woerth, a pean of victory at Hagenau, a song of triumph at Gravelotte, the joy of a splendid success at Sedan. War seemed great and glorious from the Prussian side, even in the midst of carnage and destruction. But what was the seen to the unseen, the heard to the unheard? Far away from the roar of conflict, beyond the bright rivers and the graceful hills, in cities and towns and hamlets, were watching eyes and throbbing hearts, to which the dreadful truth came with overwhelming shock.

The women, waiting and weeping and praying at home for the absent and the loved, found no luster in the campaign, saw no laurels growing on victorious brows. In some corner of the *Gazette* a common name was printed, which brought into eclipse all the radiance of the world. On the impression of the few types the eye fastened as upon a basilisk, and could not be turned away.

What is honor; what is fame; what is glory? ask thousands of choking voices when they learn of the casualties of the day. "King William may be proud; Bismarck may become immortal; Germany may be made an empire; but they will not restore to me my dead father, my lost husband, my slain son. We were poor and humble. We had no cause for quarrel. Wars may benefit kings; but they crush and destroy the people, and those who perish are more fortunate than they who survive. Why should we, who hate nobody and do no wrong, be compelled to give our best and dearest to the wholesale butchery we shudder at and hate? Have we no rights we can call our own? Because we are not princes, must our hearts be broken? Because we are helpless women, must we for the sin of loving be stricken down?"

In the trenches near the Saar, the Moselle, and the Meuse lie heaps on heaps of the undistinguished dead. Their names will not enter into history; their valor and fortitude will remain unknown; their heroism will be consecrated to silence and oblivion. But for each and every one wife, or mother, or sister mourns, and will not be comforted. Each of those ghastly corpses has taken something from some humble home which can never be returned. The indiscriminate mass of wounds and death represents the holiest and best of loyalty and love. Where this bayonet pierced a woman's arms had clasped; where that bullet struck a woman's tears had fallen in the last farewell. Over all the dreadful sacrifice hung woman's watching and tenderness and devotion, as if to shield the predestined victims; but all in vain.

War's ravages seem transient. Where the death-dealing shell has burst the grass grows green again; where noble lives have floated away on crimson tides violets and daisies cling together and exchange caresses of fragrant peace. The dead are forgotten even by their comrades, and the wounded recover to tell of their escapes and campaigns, by blazing hearths to wondering ears. The past seems as if it had never been; but to the poor women who have been bereaved the past is present always, and its deep shadow is never lifted. The vacant place, the absent form, the missing voice, the departed tenderness are constant reminders to them that consolation is for those who have not felt the touch of genuine grief.

France and Germany to-day are draped with weeds, and the muffled tread of sorrow echoes through either land. Everywhere is the voice of feminine lamentation, and about countless firesides are hearts which will never hope again. To those who survive the fearful struggle it will serve for endless reminiscences; and, in the name of patriotism, to gratify self-love. But over the gentler and purer and diviner natures, which, though absent from the fight, receive the deepest wounds, there will be a sable cloud, with scarcely a vestige of silver lining.

The woe of war makes all women one, for the same love throbs through their being whether arrayed in purple or shivering in rags. Through their hearts they are all a common sisterhood; and through the wrongs of barbarous battle they are forced to mingle their tears together. To-day and to-morrow, next week and next year, the high-born beauty in Paris and Berlin, the ignorant peasant in Alsace and Lorraine, the elegant countess and the ouvrier's widow, the proud baroness and the unwedded wife of the Garde Mobile will dream with moistened eye and quivering lip over the happy days that never can come back. With a refinement of selftorture, they will wait and watch and listen for footsteps which they know have long been hushed in the silence of the grave.

O Woman, of the many wrongs Man has put upon you that of war is among the heaviest and bitterest, because if it rested with you it would never be! In the strife you abhor and in the bloodshed you sicken at you have indeed cause for grievance. It is unnatural for men; it is monstrous to women. Until battle shall be no more, and you can no longer be robbed of your husbands and brothers, your fathers and your sons, that bloody conquerors may be crowned, the doves of peace will never nestle securely against your heart.

# The Sunday School.

## OFF OR ON.

BY REV. HENRY C. MCCOOK.

IT is a good thing to compare experiences. And in the Sunday-school ranks there is multitude as well as diversity of them for comparing. It is hard to draw them out, however. And so much sound philosophy and practical wisdom lies latent in the breasts of our silent workers, and dies when they die. I have often queried: How evoke this hoarded treasure? And at last have found an answer. I confide it to Sunday-school people who have an inquiring turn of mind: *Prepare a series of Sabbath-school lessons!*

Since the Presbyterian Board has launched the WESTMINSTER LESSONS with my name upon the pennant, I have been hailed from all quarters by my brethren of the church. And I have been compelled to look to my bearings as never before. I have wondered at the vast amount of quiet but very thorough thinking that has been going on among the people while pondering the queries and suggestions and experiences that have flowed in upon me from persons whose names (for the most part) are never seen in the columns of Sabbath-school journals. Surely, the little leaven is leavening the whole lump! The veterans must soon step to the rear. Make way for the coming people!

Here comes to me, from an earnest worker in Central Illinois, a question that I have never seen or heard mooted in public: "Would it not be better to omit the Scripture from the 'Scholar Paper?'" And the writer gives his experience. He has used from the very first issue the *National* (Chicago) *Lessons*. During the last year, having changed his residence, he finds himself with a school using the *American Worker's* (St. Louis) *Lessons*. He says: "I have found it far harder to get the scholars interested with the papers than without them. Now, it does seem to me that the printing the lesson (text) on the paper has the tendency to draw the mind of the scholar away from the Bible itself. I am inclined to think, also, that it gradually decreases instead of increases his reverence for that book. If the paper be used, it is most likely used *alone*, without the Bible. The consequence is, it is hardly regarded as the Word of God at all, but simply as part of a newspaper. I may be wrong in this; but I do not think I am. And this thing has impressed me so deeply that I had almost concluded never to let scholar-papers be used in my school. But, as our Church is about issuing such a series, I am anxious to adopt it. Only I suggest, Would it not be better to publish on the paper for the scholars all the explanations, questions, golden texts, etc.; but leave the scholar to use his Testament for the Scripture itself?"

Without touching the more radical question as to the usefulness of scholar-papers, which is worth discussing, what shall we say in answer to this brother? Maintaining the use of scholar-papers, shall we keep the Scripture text *on* them, or shall we leave it *off?*

I am not so sure, and yet I am inclined to say: *On!*

1. For I take it that the circulation of Bible truths and facts in any quantity or form, or by any lawful means, is a good thing in itself. We shall hardly err in scattering those precious leaves that are for the healing of the nations, even though we cannot send forth the entire foliage of the whole blessed tree. Isn't there a society in Gotham whose object is to *advertise* Bible-texts in the secular papers, displaying them after the most approved, conspicuous style? I have never heard irreverence of the Word urged as one of the objections to this society's methods of work. Yet what is treated more irreverently than a cast-off newspaper?

I have no doubt that portions of the Scripture are carried by the scholar-papers into many families where no Bible is to be found. And, doubtless, the very familiarity of treatment which the scholar-paper receives puts Scripture truths in the way of many others whose Bibles lie dust-covered upon the shelves, or are elegantly entombed within elaborate covers and massive clasps.

2. But here is a school whose scholars all use the Book itself. Observe. There lies a Testament wide open, back up, on the floor! Here is a leaf dropped out of some dilapidated volume. See how the sacred books are banged about by the scholars, flung down by librarians, shuffled over the benches, defaced by all manner of ill scrawls, rude figures, sprawling initials! Open this cupboard under the library shelves, and you see, if you do not smell, a pile of musty copies and parts of copies of the "Book divine." There they moulder away, eaten by the worms and the mice, until on some cleaning-up day they are irreverently borne off and burned. I am sure there are as many Sabbath-schools all through our borders who will recognize this as a plain statement of facts. Looking at the question from our brother's own standpoint, does not such treatment "decrease rather than increase reverence for the Book"? May we not fairly urge that the use of the scholar-paper, with the text, and, if you please, the abuse of it, saves the abuse of the Book itself, and prevents the association in the child's mind of the Bible and irreverence? Surely the scholars' feelings are thus rather *saved* from any shock that they might receive, or any hardening that might result from seeing and sharing in the rude handling and defacing of the Holy Scriptures.

3. And then the *study of Scripture* certainly tends to increase affectionate reverence for it. Does not the printing of the text upon the scholar-paper encourage to this study? We must deal with children as they are. Often the practical aim must be to obtain, not what we would like, but what we can get. As a matter of fact, the inconvenience of using the two articles—a question-paper or book in one hand and the Testament in the other—will be sufficient excuse for failing to use the questions at all. Put the text, questions, and analysis or explanations in the hand altogether, all convenient, and this will be a temptation to study. As least it takes away a plausible excuse for neglect, and that is much. It is one of the most difficult as well as most important problems in the whole range of Sabbath-school thought, how we may best secure the studying of lessons by the scholar. The "scholar-papers" show, at least, this one step toward a solution—viz., *make it convenient to study.*

4. Moreover, Bibles—the entire Scriptures—cost money. There are very many schools who can ill-afford the expense of purchasing books and supplying the usual wear and tear. It is very much easier for such to have the portions selected for the lesson printed upon the lesson-leaves and thus used. Some of my readers may not appreciate this point; but others, I know, will—especially those who have carried their schools through the Old Testament. And, by the way, I think I can find schools who never attempt Old Testament studies, simply because they cannot afford to own anything but the *New* Testament. The scholar-paper with the printed text tides them over *that* difficulty.

5. But, after all, it is not the most reverent use of the Bible that work-a-day, familiar use of it which brings and keeps its precious truths before men in such ways as shall best command their attention? The sword of the Spirit is used best when used most. The sword of our sires, that hangs yonder upon the wall undisturbed, we do indeed view with a sort of reverence. But, in the hour of peril, the sword that flashes in the battle-front, that is dimmed and scarred in the defense of sacred rights, though it may seem to be made a very common thing—that is the sword which is best used. And he who wields it thus, though he do not furnish it with or handle it distantly, yet wins the heartiest approval from the captain of the host. Is it not even so with those who use "the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God"?

# Music.

THE Philharmonic Concert on Saturday, the 17th, in honor of the Beethoven Centennial, was one of the most admirable performances given in many years, even by our admirable Philharmonic Society. A colossal bust of the great composer, decorated with a laurel crown and wreaths of natural flowers, occupied the front of the platform. The audience was not quite so large as the brisk demand for tickets had led us to expect; but all the good seats were occupied, and a great many that were not good, and the listeners were unusually appreciative. The ever-fresh Seventh Symphony opened the concert, and no praise that we can give would be too strong to express the admirable manner in which it was handled by Mr. Bergmann and his well-trained band. Madame Lichtmay gave the great soprano air and recitative from the first act of "Fidelio," without the fine effect she had produced with it on the stage, for she is not a pleasant singer for the concert-room. Miss Mary Krebs followed with the famous E flat concerto. She plays it with a great deal of delicacy and unrivaled facility and precision, though hardly with the deep feeling that we ought to expect in a more mature performer, and that we shall certainly expect from her in the course of a few years. The programme closed with an interesting if not in all respects satisfactory performance of "Egmont." The music was originally composed by Beethoven as an accompaniment to Goethe's drama; and when it is heard in its proper connection, and with the proper accessories, it is music of the grandest dramatic character, rising from the varied beauties of the well-known overture to a finale which is absolutely thrilling in its tragical climax. In order to fit the music for the concert-room, a short metrical synopsis of the drama was prepared in Germany, and this was translated for the present occasion by Mr. J. H. Cornell, and read by Mr. George Vandenhoff. Unfortunately, it is utterly destitute of poetry, and even Mr. Vandenhoff could not make it interesting. But it served as a background upon which to exhibit the overture, the two songs, the march, the four interludes, and the finale, of which Beethoven's share in "Egmont" consists; and these must have been keenly relished by every one in the audience who knew enough of music to relish Beethoven at all. The songs were given by Madame Lichtmay—one very well, and the other not well at all.

....Mr. John P. Morgan's Euterpe Society gave its second concert last Thursday, at Association Hall. The programme this time consisted of motets and chamber music, including several compositions of great beauty and of extraordinary interest. Perhaps the most attractive was an unpublished motet of E. F. Richter's, in eight parts, "When Israel out of Egypt came," a gem of harmonized writing, for bringing which to light Mr. Morgan deserves our warmest acknowledgments. There was a charming trio of Goldmark's, for piano-forte, violin, and violoncello, played by Ferdinand von Inten, Wenzel Kopta, and Carl Werner, which was also new to this country. A fine eight-part motet of Mendelssohn's, a motet of Hauptmann's, a trio from Mendelssohn's unfinished oratorio of "Christus," some organ playing by Mr. S. P. Warren, and solos by Kopta and Von Inten, completed the bill of one of the most tempting musical feasts that any vocal society has offered in New York this long while.

....There have been no miscellaneous concerts of great interest since we last wrote, but a few small ones may be worth mention. The matinee entertainments at Association Hall attract crowds of half as, as usual, every Saturday, and entertain them with respectable musical mediocrity. Of late, Miss Emma Howson has been singing there indifferently; and Miss Tedesco, a new violinist, has been playing rather worse than indifferently. She is remarkable for her false intonations.

....The Beethoven Concert of the Liederkranz, on Sunday night, the 18th, derived especial interest from the fact that nearly all the performers, including an orchestra of sixty, were amateurs. They gave a creditable interpretation of the Fifth Symphony (C minor), the grand male chorus "The Heavens proclaim," and several selections from "Fidelio," including the 3d Leonora overture, the Prisoner's chorus, and the quartet in canon form. Miss Krebs played Beethoven's Sonata Appassionata admirably.

....Miss Emma Celia Terry, a very immature but pleasing young lady, gave her first concert last week at Steinway Hall. She has a sweet little soprano voice, and has received some good teaching; but she is not ready yet for the concert-room, and to fill upon her with ruthless criticism would be like shooting humming-birds with a mitrailleuse.

....Madame de Barry, a pianist from Brazil, has given her first concert at a small hall just opened by the Chickerings. She plays nicely; but her performance calls for no particular comment.

# Scientific.

CAPTAIN ERICSSON says that he intends to devote the rest of his life to developing a solar steam-engine. He would have it employed mainly in the cloudless regions of the earth; and believes that, after all waste of power is deducted, a surface of 10 square feet will be ample to furnish a one-horse power during 9 hours a day, although it would furnish 8 horse powers if all the heat could be utilized. Among the advantages are that there is no exposure to fire, clinkers, or soot; and no destructive agency on the steam-generator, except the slow action of oxidation. The cost of the apparatus for collecting the solar heat is moderate; its weight is small; and it is composed of small parts easily put together. The sun's rays can have no deteriorating effect on this apparatus, which will remain serviceable for an indefinite period. There seems to be no reason why this greatest of modern inventors should not succeed in working a revolution in mechanics, which will make solar heat the most inexpensive of fuels, available for manufactures, and provide for the time when coal shall begin to fail. The rainless tracts may yet become great manufacturing regions.

....We are sorry to hear that the English Eclipse Expedition to Sicily was wrecked on the way, but with no loss of life or instruments. We do not yet know whether the delay affected the success of the expedition. Mr. Lockyer and Prof. Roscoe were commicted with this expedition, and two ladies were among the observers. We can hardly doubt that, if the weather permitted, observations were made on the corona and chromosphere of the sun which will settle their nature. The observations with the polariscope on the corona are expected to decide whether its light is reflected or not. Observations with the spectroscope on both the corona and the chromosphere will determine what is their extent and nature. The result we will give to our readers as soon as received.

....Exceedingly minute and very numerous observations are now being made on the moon, in order to discover with certainty if there is any real variation in its appearance. It will be remembered that observations on the crata *Linné* in the moon were thought to prove that some change had taken place in its character. Mädler, one of the very best of the living selenographists, and whose map

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South Sea Islands that
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19th of this month our
were held at Panama, in
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and met for a missionary
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e entire body of school-
about 725, with a staff of
hers, had *their* sermon; fol-
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winding up with that in-
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436 pigs were killed and
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*Gazette* says that at the
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# Our Young Folks.

## FLOSSY.

BY MARGARET BOURNE.

MANY pets had dear little Ruth;
A happy child she was, in truth.
Obedient and loving all the day long,
Her sweet face was bright and merry her song.

Dolls and kittens, chickens and birds,
Rabbits whose long ears listened to words
Whether or not they knew what was said)
When Ruth came to feed them with clover-tops red.

She loved all her pets, but it must be confessed
That Flossy, the white dog, was dearest and best.

Such a beauty she was no one could forbear
To pat her small head or stroke her soft hair.
She was white altogether, no hair could be seen
With the least tinge of color. There never had been

Such beautiful eyes, so bright and so brown,
So ready to laugh or so ready to frown,
As those of dear Flossy, Ruth always said
When she played with her, patting the small doggie's head.

Such frolics they had when Ruthie would run,
Her curls flying out in the bright-shining sun;
And Flossy, as white as a snow-drift, would follow,
To catch her at last, when down in a hollow

Each one would lie panting, quite breathless, yet ready
To start off again when their legs should be steady.

Everything served Flossy for mischief and play;
But the prettiest thing that she did was one day
In the bright Autumn time, when the sunshine was clear,
Resting warmly around on the grass far and near.

The wind tossed the leaves up, and then tossed them over
Where all through the Summer had blossomed sweet clover.
Then Flossy thought they must be beautiful things
To play with; they rustled and flew upon wings
Just out of her reach, and then back again fell
To where she could catch them and hold them as well
As though they were living and she on a chase,
So she threw herself down on her side with all grace,
And raising her paws would catch each one that came
Within her short reach. But soon the still game

Became all too quiet to Flossy; for she
Liked better to scamper and run merrily.
So she rose to her feet, and discovered with joy
That the air was quite full of her new-gotten toy.
Then began such a dance as one rarely can see.
She bounded from earth with a gesture as free
As that of the brown leaves: first on three feet, then two,
She balanced herself, catching leaves as they flew.
Her pink ears were pricked up, her long, plume-like tail
Waved in the cool breeze as a flag in a gale.
She leaped and she capered, she scampered and ran;
From one side of the lawn to the other she span
Like a top, whirling round until she was dizzy.
She then threw herself on the ground; but, still busy
In watching the leaves, she turned not an eye
On anything else. When an half hour passed by
She wearied of play; so, finding a bone,
She lay down to gnaw it. Ruth, standing alone
At the window, had watched this bright, pretty game.
She went to her mother and told her the same
That I have told here. I hope each of you
Will think it was pretty for Flossy to do.

## A CHRISTMAS STORY.

BY AUNT SUSIE.

"PLEASE, Aunt Hetty, please come and show us where to hang our stockings; for Santa Claus will come down the chimney, and he never will know where to put the pretty things you said he would bring us."

"Oh, no, little Henry, don't be troubled; for Santa Claus never comes till the children are fast asleep." And, saying this, the young lady broke away from the mysterious conversation she had been holding with her sisters, and imprinted a kiss on the beautiful forehead of the boy, who was looking forward to the celebration of his fifth Christmas.

"But come and find the stockings, and tell us all about '*Tristmas*,' Aunt Hetty; for my *legs are so sleepy*, and I want my nightgown on," said little three-year-old Ralph.

"Ha, ha, my little bird, are your legs sleepy? Aunt Hetty thinks the little black eyes are, too; for they keep winking, and something is pulling the corners down. But come, little autocrats, the world must do as you say, and all good aunties are at the disposal of the children on Christmas Eve. Come, and we will prepare for Santa Claus's visit."

And, taking the tired baby-boy on her arm, and clasping Henry's soft, fat hand, the pride of the little cousins, with a merry, joyous laugh, led the way through the spacious hall and up the broad stairs to little Henry's chamber.

Here the stockings were to be hung; and Ralph, who was to sleep in the large guest-chamber, with his father and mother, could come as soon as it was light, and together the boys could enjoy their expected gifts.

"Shall I get some of Grandpa's great, big stockings for you to hang up?" said Aunt Hetty.

"Oh, yes, do; for Santa Claus can stuff them so full," said Henry.

But Ralph had discovered one of his own little striped stockings; and, holding it up, said: "Santa Claus will think dis is prettiest," at the same time trying to hang it on the saddle of the rocking-horse, that was standing by.

"No, no, no, Ralph; *that ain't the way.* Don't you know we must hang them all close to the chimney, so old St. Nick will see them just as quick as he comes down."

"That will be the best way, I think," said Aunt Hetty. "And you must be very good little boys; for I have heard that even Santa Claus comes to the naughty boy's stockings he don't put anything in but a whip."

"We be good boys, won't we, Ralph?" And the cousins commenced such a hugging and kissing that stockings and everything were forgotten in the frolic, till Aunt Hetty exclaimed:

"The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,
In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there."

"Hurrah! hurrah! See, Ralph, isn't it fun? You have got a pair of Grandpa's stockings, with your little striped one between; and I have got another pair, with one of my red ones. *Now* I guess Santa Claus will know *which is which*."

Here the door opened, and a lady entered the room whom little Ralph so closely resembled that we wondered not when he ran to her with the joyous cry, "Mother!"

She was short—some would have called her stout—she certainly was not, handsome; but the peculiar poise of her well-shaped head in certain dignified pride, her intelligent face, thoughtful eyes, the artistic arrangement of her dark-brown hair made one forget her ungraceful figure and the children looked up delightedly when she said, in a bright, cheerful voice, "Little birds, what a merry time you are having. But I think you must shut your eyes before long, for Santa Claus's eight tiny reindeer won't dare to stop if they see a light here."

"Well, Minna, if you will take Ralph to your room, I will stay with Henry till he is asleep," said Hetty. And she opened the snow-white bed, and, drawing Henry to her, commenced repeating those lines, so very old, and yet so fresh to every child, though heard for the hundredth time:

"'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house
Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse."

While the children are going to sleep, let me draw you a picture of the home, and portraits of the family who have gathered for the celebration of the holidays.

The large square mansion is the property of the beloved physician of the most beautiful of New England villages.

The most careless observer would see that it was the abode of hospitality and refinement.

The wide front entrance gives the house an appearance of elegance, and yet not of costliness; of taste, and yet not of wealth. The broad front-yard—in summer a beautiful green lawn, enlivened by groups of rare flowers—is not unpleasing to us now in the purity of its winter dress; and the far reach of garden behind tells us of harvestings that must have filled garret and cellar.

The hall—broad, high, and dividing the house—is furnished with pictures and statuary, of fine artistic merit, brackets of books, a heavy mahogany table, chairs of odd antique design, and the substantial, good, old-fashioned sofa; while

"From its station in the hall
An ancient timepiece says to all:
Forever—never!
Never—forever!"

The rest of the house is furnished in more modern style—not expensively or showily, but tastefully; not with the *taste* of the *upholsterer*, but the taste of the *inmates*.

'Tis a doctor's house throughout—a doctor whose *whole great soul glories in his profession*, and whose charity and skill is ever ready for those who have need of him; whose good wife is, indeed, a helpmeet and joy, not alone in the sympathy she gives him in his love of his science, but in every thought and feeling of taste, refinement, and culture.

Ralph, with his father and mother, are on a visit from the city, enjoying their return to the old homestead.

But Aunt Hetty is coming down-stairs, and we will enter the library with her, just pausing a moment for her portrait, in her lovely dress of Quaker drab. She is very different from her sister, Minna—more beautiful, more attractive. Her eyes are blue, her hair light, her skin fair, her cheeks full and rosy—"a perfect Hebe," we say to ourselves. The characteristic ways of wearing her ribbons and jewelry aid in making her "splendid" to-night; while her bright, beaming face, her laughing eyes and mouth, finish the picture. She is the beautiful, the bright one, the summer child of the house. Her merry laugh is often heard; for she finds happiness in almost everything, and is keenly sensitive to the ludicrous. If you *really love* music (for she steadily refuses her song to those who understand not the music of the heart), her rich, sweet, well-trained voice will thrill you to weeping, or wake you to laughter or admiration. She is ever ready for whatever duty comes; and her endless fund of stories and good humor makes her a great favorite with the children. But she has opened the door, and we must go in with her.

Grandmother's bright, sunny room is the favorite resort—the "sanctum," where all the family may go and find rest and comfort; but to-night they are gathered in the library, which they are trimming with "Christmas green." 'Tis a beautiful room: the books, so many and so valuable; the pictures, here and there and everywhere—some of them "home productions," it is true, but none the less valuable to the father and mother; the piano, with its piles of music; the little ornaments, which none but tasteful hands know how to place; the furniture, handsome and comfortable; and, last of all, the pieces of parchment, signed and sealed, framed, and hung by the busts of Hippocrates and Æsculapius.

By day this room, with the others of the house, is freely opened to the sun and light, insuring cheerfulness and health. But to-night 'tis a lovely place—the grate, with its burden of glowing anthracite, outshining the brightness of the lamps; the happy faces of the group beaming with love and intelligence; and the perfect content of the watch-dog Gyp, as he sleeps on the rug before the fire.

The "Doctor" sits in his easy-chair (he is a large man, in both soul and body). His genial face, cordial manners, the easy grace with which he enters into conversation, mark him *every inch a gentleman*. His medical journal he has closed, and has thrown back his head, which is crowned, not with "hoary hairs," but a wonderful rich brown mass, to listen to the conversation which the beautiful mother is leading.

She sits not far from her husband. Her hands are busy, for they are never idle, in preparations for the morrow. Her silver hair, still long and heavy, is partly hidden by her dainty cap; her face, always, interesting, so softened and beautified by the cares and trials and sufferings of sixty years that her family look up to her as to something almost sacred, and fear, while they listen to her voice, that a life so pure and holy will not be granted to them long.

Elise, the oldest daughter, has just risen from the piano, to throw a little shawl over her mother's shoulders. She is taller than her sisters, more slender, very graceful and ladylike—a perfect ease of manner and rare power of entertaining. She has a wonderful love for everything beautiful, and an equally strong aversion to everything ugly or unworthy. She is the cateful one. It is Elise who sees that every one is properly clothed and fed, and to whom every one turns for pity or caress. She is not handsome as the world say "handsome"; but through her face shines "the beauty of the soul," and to *know* her means to *love* her.

"He may be an educated man, with a strong mind and will; but he certainly is not polished or cultivated," the mother was saying, as we entered the room.

"Well, do you think that people generally desire refinement as well as intelligence, culture as well as strength?" said Elise.

"No," said a young man who was arranging an evergreen branch over the likeness of Leonardo da Vinci; "no, the thirst for gold dulls the finer feelings, and men grovel in the dust, and forget to look for the beautiful flowers that only come by cultivation, and the blessed crown which Wisdom gives to all her children."

"Yes, culture is at a discount in these days, Mr. Wyndham."

"One seldom sees a man with the old-fashioned refinement of your father," said the Doctor, as he laid his hand on his wife's shoulder. "But, Robert, where is your wife, Minna?"

The young man turned to his father-in-law, for the first time showing us his handsome face, so finely set off by the raven black of his hair. His forehead was high, his eyes dark; and, looking into his intelligent, honest, interesting face, we marked a pure and true and noble soul. He was ever busy, ever working, ready to lend a helping hand or give a strengthening word wherever it was needed. He was not one to make a noise or stir among men; but in regard to his character we remember the words of Fredrika Bremer: "What is good grows best, like sunshine, quietly through the world."

Minna opened the door before her husband had time to answer the question asked him; and, crossing the room to her father's chair, put her white hand on his head and played with his beautiful hair.

"Well, my child, how much you grow like your mother! Rather smaller, I think."

"Yes, Father; a smaller edition, but not revised and improved."

"No, daughter; *that could not be.*"

"Your father has arrived at the age when one begins to glorify the past," said the mother.

"Well, Father," said Robert, "if Minna does not look like mother when she is as old, I shall bring her back"—at the same time casting a look of entire satisfaction and earnest love.

"Mother," said Minna, how far do you think it is best to go in this mystifying of Santa Claus? Some people think it not only foolish, but wicked, to tell the children the old story of the man dressed all in fur, who drives his tiny sleigh from house to house, and comes down the chimney, to fill the stockings with toys and candies."

"I don't believe it is wrong," said Elise. "I know the charm and joy of Christmas was lost to me when I found just how the stockings were filled; and I would not rob my child of the great happiness I knew and the perfect delight I took in the mystery."

"The illusion is a pleasant one," said Robert. "But is it best to learn what is to be unlearned?"

"The illusion is a pleasant one," repeated the mother; "and I think a very safe one also. The absurdity will appear as soon as the children are old enough to reason; and when they become men they put away childish things."

Here a great commotion in the hall announced an arrival, and the door opened, introducing us to little Henry's father. "Hurrah! What makes you all so still? Ready for Santa Claus? Just look out here!" And the tall young man displays an almost untold number of packages. He brings life and energy and bustle and cheer, and causes many a merry laugh at his rélation of his funny encounters in the stores of the adjoining town.

"I hear the prancing and pawing of each little hoof," said Aunt Hetty. "Hadn't we better go up-stairs, to see that Santa Claus does it all up in good shape?"

And the family adjourned to the nursery.

When the children looked out of the windows on Christmas morning, they found "a great white sheet had been let down from Heaven, containing nothing common or unclean," covering the earth with a pure, soft mantle. And when the sun, after struggling awhile with the clouds, finally burst out in all his brightness, the view was so glorious and beautiful that even the little ones clapped their hands in ecstacy.

The snow had not come with a "rushing wind"; but so quietly and softly that each little twig of those great trees and the tiny branches of the shrubs bore its beautiful burden of feathery white.

The fences and the long stretches of stone-wall—everything as far as the eye could reach—were touched or covered with multitudes of those little flakes, which are so fragile, so beautiful, so white, they are

"Meet for an angel to glance on
When he stands by the throne of the Father of Light."

"'Tis fitting that the blackness of the earth should be covered with this pure drapery on the morning of the birthday of "Son of God"!" exclaimed the mother.

Hetty commenced one of her beautiful Christmas carols. The children remembered the tables and stockings in the nursery. We will go with them and see their joy.

The room was trimmed heavily with evergreens. The stockings by the chimney were stuffed as full as full could be; and, as the children, digging deep into them, brought out and unrolled the little parcels, their delight knew no bounds when whistles and balls and dogs and rabbits and trumpets and bells fell into their laps.

A table spread near the fireplace was regarded with great wonder by the children.

The circles of bright red apples enclosing Christmas cakes, with their names on the white frosting; the picture and lesson-books; the delicate cups, exquisitely painted, filled with nice candies; the blocks, the houses, the farm-yard, the stable, the sugar canes and baskets, the warm mittens and tippets, and the beautiful vases of lovely hot-house flowers—it all made a pretty picture. But the sled and the tip-cart and the wheel-barrow and the hobby-horse and the little shovels were the principal delight of these favored little ones.

For hours the children played, till tired with the excess of happiness; and their mothers, taking them in their arms, told them the story of the good Jesus, who so many years ago was born in the stable at Bethlehem, and laid in his "manger-cradle." How the angel told Joseph when the wicked king meant to kill all the babies, and they took little Jesus away; how he lived with his parents and was "subject" unto them. They told these boys of Jesus's life, of his healing the sick and giving sight to the blind, making the deaf to hear and the dumb to speak, the lame to walk and the dead to rise again. Then they told of his death on the cross, "so little boys could get up to Heaven"; of his reigning in Heaven with his Father—that beautiful Heaven where all is light and joy, and only goodness and happiness is known. And, hearing these beautiful stories, Henry and Ralph fell fast asleep, and were laid in their little beds, to dream, we think, of the greatest Christmas present the world has ever known—

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We will send THE INDEPENDENT one year—price $3—to any person (not already a subscriber to *Hearth and Home*) who will send us $5 00; or we will send *Hearth and Home* one year as a present to any new subscriber for that periodical who will send us the names of three new subscribers to THE INDEPENDENT with the money.

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Altogether the best, cheapest, and most popular Sabbath-school monthly in America, and worthy of a place in every family. Friends of the young should labor earnestly for its extensive circulation; and, if possible, introduce it into every Sabbath-school class and Bible-class in the nation.

We will send THE INDEPENDENT one year—price $2 50—and the *National Sunday-school Teacher* (monthly) for one year—price $1 50—to any person (not already a subscriber to *The National Sunday-school Teacher*) who will send us $3; or we will send the *National Sunday-school Teacher* one year as a present to any new subscriber for that periodical who will send us the name of one new subscriber to THE INDEPENDENT, with the money.

**Herald of Health.**

A health journal in the broadest meaning of the word health; including all that relates to physical, moral, and intellectual improvement.

We will send THE INDEPENDENT one year—price $2 50—and the *Herald of Health* for one year—price $2 00—to any person who will send us $4 00; or we will send the *Herald of Health* one year as a present to any person who will send us the names of two new subscribers to THE INDEPENDENT, with the money.

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**SIX MONTHS AT THE WHITE HOUSE WITH ABRAHAM LINCOLN.**

We will send THE INDEPENDENT one year—price $3 50—and "Six Months at the White House"—price $1 50—postage paid to any person who will send us $3; or we will send "Six Months at the White House" as a present to any person who will send us the name of one new subscriber to THE INDEPENDENT, with the money.

**Worcester's Unabridged Pictorial Quarto Dictionary.**

We will present this magnificent unabridged pictorial dictionary—price $10—to any person who will send us the names of six new subscribers, with the money ($15), orto any person not in arrears who will renew his subscription for eight years and pay us $20. This splendid volume, of eighteen hundred and fifty pages, is becoming more and more popular wherever the English language is spoken, and by thousands it is pronounced vastly superior to any other dictionary in the world. It is worth a whole library of ordinary trash, called books, and should be owned and placed on the centre-table for daily consultation and study in *every family*. Our favorable contract with the Publishers enables us to offer it for the trifling effort of obtaining six new subscribers. Reader, if you are destitute, go to work.

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**Great Premium!**

**A MAGNIFICENT OFFER**

**TO**

**Every Subscriber of The Independent.**

**Wanting a Perfect Sewing Machine,**

**TAKE NOTICE.**

GROVER & BAKER'S world-renowned No. 23 Family Sewing Machine sells for $55 cash. We will present such a machine to any person who will send us the names of TWENTY-TWO new subscribers (see terms on first page), which, at our usual rates, $2 50 each, is $55—*just the cash price of the machine.*

We simply want the names (with the money) of *twenty-two persons* who do not take our paper, and who really subscribe for it; they may be sent one at a time, or all together they may be at one post-office, or more than one—we are only particular that they shall be *bona-fide new subscribers.* On this liberal offer we shall expect to send one of these indispensable household articles into almost every village in the country.

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PUBLISHER,
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We have concluded arrangements by which we are able to offer this VERY SUPERIOR Clothes Wringer (the cash price of which is $7 50) to any person who will send us the names of three *new* subscribers, with the money, $7 50; or who will renew an old subscription four years in advance, and pay us $10.

This Wringer is said by those who have tried it to be very simple, and equal to any in use.

**Publisher's Department.**

☞ CRAMPTON BROTHERS' Imperial Laundry Soap contains a large percentage of Vegetable Oil, is warranted fully equal to the best imported Castile Soap, and at the same time possesses all the washing and cleansing properties of the celebrated French and German laundry soaps. Housekeepers will do well to call for it. If your grocer does not keep it, send your order direct to the MANUFACTORY, 2, 4, 6, 8, and 10 Rutger Place and 88 and 85 Jefferson street. Office 84 Front street, N. Y.

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MRS. WM. B. REED, of Southboro, Mass., has used one of Grover & Baker's Sewing Machines in her family for more than twelve years. During that time it has never got out of order, and the only expense she has been to is in the matter of buying needles.

**1833. 1870.**

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Something urgently needed by everybody. Call and examine, or 12 Samples sent (postage paid) for Fifty Cents that retail easily for Ten Dollars.

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## NOTICES.

☞ All communications for the Editorial Literary, News, and Miscellaneous Columns of this Journal should be addressed to **The Editor of The Independent, P. O. Box 2787.**

☞ All communications for the Commercial Department, to the Commercial Editor; and all business communications from subscribers and advertisers, to **Henry C. Bowen, Box 2787.**

☞ No notice can be taken of anonymous communications. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer; not necessarily for publication, but as a guaranty of good faith.

☞ We do not hold ourselves responsible for any views or opinions expressed in the communications of our Correspondents.

☞ Manuscripts sent to THE INDEPENDENT cannot be returned.

# The Independent.

HENRY C. BOWEN,
EDITOR, PUBLISHER, AND PROPRIETOR.

**New York, December 29th, 1870.**


## OUR HISTORY AND OUR PLANS FOR THE FUTURE.

It is now twenty-two years this month since the first number of THE INDEPENDENT was published. We were present with others to greet the new-born sheet as it fell from the press, and have never ceased, from that day to this, to be practically interested in its management and success. It was our good fortune to be associated from the very beginning with men who cheerfully gave their time and their money to establish a religious journal which should teach Christianity, equal rights, impartial justice, and national reform. To make money was not the object in view. Not one of its original proprietors, for more than half a score of years, received money enough from the paper, over and above its expenses, to buy a loaf of bread. It not only paid no dividends to its owners, but actually involved them in a loss of some forty thousand dollars in about ten years. It poorly paid its able and efficient editorial corps, consisting of Messrs. Bacon, Storrs, and Thompson, whose combined salaries for several years amounted to only one thousand dollars per annum. Its many writers and regular contributors received little or nothing for their much-needed and valuable services.

As the paper increased in popularity and circulation, its expenses also increased, until at length it became a serious question with its proprietors whether it ever could be established on a self-supporting basis. Having no value in the market as an investment, it was offered as a free gift to two or three wealthy Christian gentlemen of this city, who declined to assume its existing obligations to its subscribers, and also the salaries and other necessary expenses of the paper. They chose rather to let those who commenced the enterprise, or into whose hands it had fallen, take all its future risks and honors. This was ten years or more after the paper was started. During this whole period, although its circulation was steadily increasing, its necessary expenses could not be kept within the limits of its receipts. Not until after it had obtained forty thousand subscribers did it pay its annual expenses; and not until the list was swelled to fifty thousand did it commence to return the large advances made by its proprietors. If its subscription list had been limited to twenty or even twenty-five thousand, it could not have been sustained on its original basis; but must have passed into the hands of some individual who would have assumed its management as editor, publisher, and proprietor.

The present owner of the paper, after spending more than twenty-five years in other business, and having no plans for a change, was providentially compelled to seek another vocation at the outbreak of the late Rebellion. He reluctantly became the publisher of THE INDEPENDENT, as the only resource left him for the support of his family, and determined to do the best he could to save both himself and the paper from utter ruin. He now gratefully remembers the many friends who then gave him substantial aid, advice, and sympathy.

The tide soon turned. Subscribers to THE INDEPENDENT multiplied in every direction, and during the years 1862 and 1866 it was placed on a paying basis. By an erroneous calculation and statement made to certain business men then interested, it was supposed that the paper had made some money during the years 1859 and 1860. Its cash receipts for these years did actually exceed its total expenses; but the white paper then used was bought on a credit of eight months, and, besides, no calculation whatever was made for the money received in *advance* from subscribers. Both of these amounts deducted far exceeded the nominal profits of the paper during the period named.

Other interesting chapters in the history of THE INDEPENDENT must here be omitted for the want of space.

We have now to do with the present and the future, and shall labor zealously in carrying out a long-cherished plan for the further improvement and usefulness of this journal. Loving the work, and expecting to spend our days, so long as health and strength shall last, in our pastoral field of labor, and encouraged by the fact that in all its history THE INDEPENDENT has had no year of financial prosperity equal to the one now closing, we make a new consecration to the service, and hasten to state our purposes.

First of all, we intend, with such means, and help as we can command, that THE INDEPENDENT, while not denominational or sectarian, but rather heartily giving the hand of fellowship to all Christians of every name and sect, yea, to all, without name or sect, who truly love and serve the Master, shall nevertheless be the firm friend and advocate of a pure, evangelical Christianity, as found in the New Testament.

The institutions and practical work of Christianity—the church, the ministry, the Sabbath, the Sabbath-school, seminaries for Christian learning, Young Men's Christian Associations, revivals of religion, and all the types and forms of missionary effort to propagate the truth, either at home or abroad—to these, and the like things, it will always be ready and anxious to give a helping hand. As a journal of both opinions and facts, it will give prominence to these great interests of our common Christianity. The distinctive dogmas and speculations which divide good men into sects and parties, and sometimes endanger the unity of the Spirit, will not be taught in these columns. These subjects it prefers to leave to denominational journalism, and to theological seminaries, whether at Andover or Princeton, Newton or Mercersburg, Chicago or Evanston, in which professed teachers most ably expound Christian truth in the particular forms most acceptable to their own understandings. THE INDEPENDENT will stand with all good men on the doctrines and principles which make them "one in Christ Jesus." It will not seek to erect barriers between true Christians; but rather to tear them down, and promote the spirit of brotherly confidence and love among all. It will aim to make people happy by making them good, according to the biblical conception of the idea. Such is our purpose as a religious journal.

While THE INDEPENDENT will be committed to no political party, as such, it will, nevertheless, freely, in its editorial columns and elsewhere, discuss political questions as they arise; and at all times, in the exercise of its own discretion, take positive ground upon the same, without ambiguity or disguise. No party will ever be rich enough or strong enough to restrain or modify its utterances. Though a religious journal, it will have political opinions which it will never hesitate plainly to express.

In relation to reformatory movements, having reference to the correction of abuses and wrongs, and the improvement of men in their personal habits and social condition, it is the solemn purpose of THE INDEPENDENT to be as radical as John the Baptist. It means to lay the ax at the root of the tree, and endeavor to cut down everything that should come down. It will have no conservatism based on policy, and none at the expense of truth. It will insist that equal rights and privileges shall be enjoyed by all the people, without distinction of race, sex, or color; while it will oppose all sectarian legislation as wrong in itself, and equally at war with the spirit of our institutions. It will advocate total abstinence from the use of all intoxicating liquors as a beverage, and such modifications of the law as may be necessary to prevent this vice, and properly punish those who are guilty of poisoning the people by hundreds and thousands throughout the land. On this subject it will speak with no hesitating or uncertain voice. Its past history in the line of radical reform and plain speech will in no respect be reversed by its future course. The wrong it will everywhere condemn, and the right it will approve and support, whatever may be the views or opinions of others. Here its single inquiry will be this: *What does truth require?*

THE INDEPENDENT will have a department of political economy in the broadest sense; embracing opinions and facts in relation to commerce, general finance, the money market, trade, agriculture, railway construction and transportation, the investments of capital, life insurance, savings banks, and all the laws of the country which may affect any or all of these material interests. Next to its religious character, it intends to make this department in the future, as in the past, prominent; endeavoring to serve the interests of business men in a practical manner, while inculcating such principles as are conducive to a sound morality in the circles of trade, and, hence, to national thrift and prosperity.

The times have wonderfully changed within the last thirty years. Rich men are rapidly multiplying. Wealth abounds in every quarter. We well remember when first told that John Jacob Astor was worth "two or three millions of dollars." Now we have a host of such men in the City of New York, and a whole army in the nation. New York City has more than a score who are worth ten millions, and three or four worth from forty to sixty millions of dollars. Such vast progress in general wealth, and such immense individual accumulations, with almost boundless facilities for increase, make the department of political economy one of prime importance in any journal that undertakes to keep up with the times. This is precisely what we intend to do; not by any means exclusively, yet so prominently as to make this a conspicuous feature of the paper. We intend to commend all such public enterprises as are adapted to the general good, and also recommend to the confidence and esteem of the people those who inaugurate or conduct the same in accordance with safe and sound business principles.

Not only the common schools, but also the higher institutions of learning, will find in THE INDEPENDENT a warm and earnest friend. It will advocate the perpetuity and extension of our American common-school system as the great educator of the masses, and oppose all efforts that seek to use the system or absorb any portion of the public funds for sectarian ends. It will urge the founding and liberal endowment of colleges and universities on a much more enlarged basis—where everything to be learned, either from books or from Nature, shall be taught, as nearly as possible, without money and without price; where music as well as Latin, painting as well as Greek and Hebrew, poetry and elocution as well as mathematics, refinement in manners, words, and thought; and, indeed, where all the branches of human knowledge shall be included in the programme of instruction. The Astors, the Stewarts, the Claflins, the Lows, and all the great millionaires of the land, will be earnestly urged to champion all the educational movements of the age, and so benevolently distribute their wealth as to give to the people the largest opportunity for the most expansive and varied forms of learning. The country is rich enough and old enough to take a long step in this direction. There is no reason whatever why its system of education should not speedily be far more comprehensive and thoroughly manned than any that can at present be found in the world. The necessity of sending our young men and women to Europe to procure a finished education we would supersede by making our own system broader and more perfect in every particular.

THE INDEPENDENT will wage no indiscriminate war upon recreations and amusements. When enjoyed within reasonable and proper limits, they are necessary and useful, being alike morally permissible and actually healthful to both body and mind. That unnatural and morose sobriety that knows no playfulness, and permits none without censure, will never find any advocacy in our columns. There is a time for joy—yea, a time to laugh, as well as a time to weep, or even to pray. Our nature as really points to the one as do our necessities to the other. We believe in both, each in its place. That is a very partial and incomplete view of man which proscribes all amusement as necessarily harmful and inconsistent with the moral requirements of our existence. Christians, when adopting this view, simply disfigure their own piety, and render it unlovely without making it better.

Man, moreover, has an esthetic element delicately woven into the structure of his soul, made to be responsive to the beautiful and the ornamental in the world of art, as well as to the more beautiful in the great kingdom of Nature. This element THE INDEPENDENT will not seek to outlaw or depress, but rather to develop and improve. Its pages will be enriched from time to time with the best specimens it can obtain of original poetry. Occasionally a finely-told story will salute the reader, to please as well as profit.

We believe in the beautiful and in the ornamental, as well as in the useful and substantial; in beautiful rainbow colors, and in beautiful flowers; in pictures and statuary; in gliding streams and waving forests; in flower-gardens, as well as in fruit and vegetable gardens; in beautiful, God-made parks and lawns in the country, as well as in magnificent, man-made avenues, drives, and breathing-places in the city; in shade-trees and shrubbery, vines and trellises; yea, we believe in gold and in silver (as well as in greenbacks), in diamonds and in precious stones—for we could not if we would, either ignore their existence or their value. And all the people who have the means, whether in or out of the church, may, within proper limits, use these things and enjoy them; *for they are the gifts of God.*

We intend to follow the people with instruction and advice wherever they go—into the field and into the workshop, into their stores and into their banking-houses, into the halls of Congress and into private life, as well as into the church and lecture-room. We shall be far more likely to do this than to go back to Noah and the flood, or to any other far-distant period, for themes to interest or instruct our readers. We shall try, however, to inculcate the whole of God's truth, as it may be found in either the Old or New Testament.

This outline sketch of the field which THE INDEPENDENT proposes to occupy, and of which we have thought for years, presents, we are quite aware, a large undertaking, and involves much expense and very hard labor. Yet we have deliberately committed ourselves to the enterprise, and mean to do what we can to realize the result. Designing to produce a first-class newspaper in all respects, we ask our friends to help us in this work, and do what they can to aid us in extending its circulation into every town, village, and hamlet in the country, so far as they believe it will do good, and prove itself a moral and Christian helper among the people.

We conclude this statement by saying that THE INDEPENDENT, in its editorial columns, will speak the sentiments of its editor and proprietor; always, however, seeking the advice and counsel of the able Christian gentlemen who are associated with him in the conduct and management of the paper, and who jointly with him must practically share in all the honors or censures of its public utterances. There will be no sign, classification, or arrangement of the articles which may appear on the editorial page to suggest the faintest clue to their authorship.

We are now happy to announce that we have permanently secured the services of Joshua Leavitt, D. D., Samuel T. Spear, D. D., Prof. Wm. H. Ward, and Edward Eggleston, D.D., as our associates, and that the last-named gentleman will act as superintending editor. Two other names will hereafter be announced, and the whole staff, thus made up, (seven in all), will form the Editorial Corps. In the minor editorial departments of the paper the services of the following persons have also been permanently secured as editorial writers—viz., Charles F. Briggs, Miss Edna Dean Proctor, Mrs. Mary Clemmer Ames, Henry T. Williams, Wm. C. Kibbe, Wm. H. Trafton, David W. Lewis, and two other well-known gentlemen, connected with different mercantile firms, who will carefully make up our valuable weekly dry goods reports. Many of the ablest writers of the day, including those already familiar to our readers, will enrich our columns with their contributions. Several eminent literary men whose names will not be announced are also attached to the paper as editorial contributors.

## OUR WORK FOR THE YEAR ENDED.

WITH the present number THE INDEPENDENT finishes its record for 1870. To the year almost gone it now says, "Farewell." Fifty-two times it has greeted its readers with words designed for their comfort and cheer, always gratefully cherishing their acquaintance, and seeking to make them wiser and better. It has not intentionally overlooked the wants of any class, or failed to speak at least a word on all the current topics and interests of the day.

Standing on the verge of the New Year, hopeful for the future, we now look back to the dead and buried past, less to glory in achievements than to gather practical lessons for battles yet to be fought and labors yet to come. Its aim has been, still is, and, so long as its present editor and proprietor shall be the guide of its counsels, ever will be to make itself the willing servitor of all interests, human and divine. Less than this it dare not undertake, and more it is not possible to attempt.

The readers of THE INDEPENDENT who with it began the year—where are they now, what are they, what have they done, and what do they propose as the unaccomplished task of 1871? How much has the year taken from or added to the significance of their lives? What have they gained by prosperity, and what have they lost by not properly using it? What have they lost by failures, and what have gained in the reverse? What have they they omitted which they might and should have done? How many of their moments have fled without leaving any valuable results as their record? How much money have they foolishly squandered, and how much have they given to make this a happier and a better world? Who thanks them for their kindness, and who mentions their names with gratitude? Whom have they offended, and whom have they pleased or forgiven? Whom have they injured, and whom have they served? What does memory now say of their joys and sorrows, their virtues and vices, their Sabbaths and their week-days, their religion and their business, their families, their churches, and their neighborhoods? How much of real life—a life worthy of the name—have they aimed to live in what will soon be three hundred and sixty-five days of their historic being? What is the record written in Heaven, and awaiting their review, when all their years are gone? How will the year 1870 seem when life is closing, and the opening gates of the great hereafter shall suggest to them realities and consequences which remain to be known and felt in another sphere?

We are very far from being moody, in connecting these questions with the farewell of the year, and soberly addressing them to all its readers. What the Rev. Frederick W. Robertson—that brilliant light and sparkling genius of the English pulpit, whose sun went down too soon for the world—styles the "Irreparable Past" ought to awaken the reflections of every man, be his creed or character what it may. This "irreparable past" is freighted with sage lessons in respect to the "available future." Just one life Heaven assigns to us here; and the great secret of living it well, and making the sum total honorable and effective, consists in living well each moment. This is the philosopher's stone that turns all into gold, sheds undying lustor on human powers, and fits them, when the task of earth is done, to soar to brighter and happier realms. "Life is real. Life is earnest." Let the merchant, the banker, the mechanic, the farmer, the statesman, the preacher, yea, even the humblest man of earth, nobly resolve to make the most of it when present, thus leaving nothing to regret in the past, and seeing nothing to dread in the future.

Impressed with the value of time and the importance of its proper use, THE INDEPENDENT invites its numerous readers to join with it in the salutation of a thoughtful "Farewell" to the retiring year.

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YOUR sentimentalist in religion is very critical. Thus, the Chicago *Tribune* don't like printed or reported prayers. Of the reports of Mr. Beecher's prayers, regularly printed with his sermons, it says: "They strike us very much like a glass of soda carried across the street." The comparison of prayers with soda is certainly original; but might it not be as legitimately used to illustrate the difference between the sermon or oration as heard from the lips of the speaker, and the same thing after it has undergone the cooling process of reporting and type-setting? Is not the difference between the spoken and the reported prayer identical with that between the spoken and the reported sermon? If not, why? We hope the *Tribune* does not think lightly of the Lord's Prayer, or of the prayer recorded in the 17th of John; but, surely, if reporting and printing prayers has a tendency to make them stale, these ought by this time to have become worthless. We should say, on the contrary, that a prayer uttered from the heart, and which inspires those who hear it with reverence, penitence, and devotion, cannot be spoiled by being put into print.

## SOWING THE SEEDS OF WAR.

THERE is nothing so unscrupulous as unscrupulous journalism; unless, indeed, it be unscrupulous statesmanship. There is a pinchbeck popularity always in the reach of any paper or politician that will fall in with the drift of popular feeling. The moment there is a speck of international trouble, there are always people ready to show their own courage by asking why somebody else does not fight. The worst bully in the world is the bully that is so willing to see other people pummeled. In the "Alabama" discussion there have not been wanting those whose very speech smelled of gunpowder, whose pens were dipped in saltpeter.

As soon as Mr. Motley's removal was announced, we were informed that it meant war; though, curiously enough, Mr. Motley was supposed to be the confidential friend of Mr. Sumner, who, it was said, also "meant war." Mr. Morton's appointment was hailed as another indication that we were not to be trifled with. And now Mr. Schenck is to pursue a threatening policy, that will bring England to terms.

We do not so understand the Administration. We believe too much in General Grant's good sense to think that he has a thought of war. Let us speak the plain truth, and say that we believe that Gen. Schenck was appointed in order to provide a comfortable place for a faithful and able friend of the Administration, who lost his election to Congress. This is the whole significance of it. That he will make an able minister we have not a doubt.

But we cannot begin too soon to protest against this effort to manufacture a war feeling. We know nothing more criminal in the history of political maneuvering than General Butler's proposition to make hostility to England the basis of the next campaign of the Republican party. If the party were to enter on a canvass with such a platform, it would deserve more than defeat. It ought to be annihilated.

We have suffered great indignities from the English governing classes. Behold the remedy which our journals offer us! Let us kill a few English sailors. Pirates built in English waters captured innocent merchant vessels carrying our flag. We will be revenged! Let us destroy a few innocent English trading ships! Our commerce has suffered at the hands of England. We will remedy it. Let us seek a war that will leave us no commerce at all! But we are told that our honor has suffered, and **we must have redress. Now it seems to** us that the dueling code is not a very wise one. If a man calls you a liar, you cannot prove yourself truthful by shooting him, or by standing up as a target for his pistol practice. We never could see how a man proved himself truthful by becoming a murderer. But dueling is wisdom itself alongside the principle of going to war to avenge national honor. Earl Russell, representing the British nation, insulted our dignity; and Mr. Gladstone and Earl Granville refuse to make amends. We will wipe out the stain by butchering the John Smiths of the British navy and the Tom Browns of the English army; or, what is just as good, by letting them kill our Smiths and Browns. If a man burns your house, you are not such a barbarian as to burn his by way of redress. If a man owes us a debt, we do not consider ourselves bound to blow his brains out straightway. The honor of a nation cannot be secured by wholesale and scientific murder. Did France repair her honor by marching to "the German Rhine"?

What we object to is the slow but steady upbuilding of a hostile feeling, that will put it in the power of an ambitious man on either side to produce an outbreak at some critical moment. Let us say frankly to the English people that we mean neither war nor bluster. They are a proud people, as we are. They are quite unwilling to settle a difficulty while there is a threat behind the demand.

We hope Mr. Schenck, and those above Mr. Schenck, will have the good sense to say to English statesmen that we do not mean on any account to fight about these claims. The dishonor is not ours. It belongs to the nation that wronged us. Let them stand it, we can. Let us pass upon them all considerations of their own honor and dignity. But let us never sacrifice our honor and dignity so far as to threaten. Justice we must have, if we can get it by fair means. But "let us have peace."

## DEATH OF ALBERT BARNES.

THE death of this loved and learned man of God extinguishes one of the brightest lights of our time. He died in the city of Philadelphia, on Saturday afternoon, December 24th, aged 72. He had walked a considerable distance, accompanied by his daughter, on a visit of condolence to a bereaved family, and had hardly taken his seat in the house when he suddenly complained of a difficulty in breathing, threw his head back, and soon expired, apparently without any pain. It is supposed that his death was caused by heart disease.

Mr. Barnes was a native of Rome, N. Y., born December 1st, 1798, graduated at Hamilton College in 1820, and at Princeton Seminary in 1824. He was ordained pastor of the Presbyterian church at Morristown, New Jersey, in February, 1825, where he began his great life-work of preparing Scripture Commentaries for the aid of Sunday-schools. In 1830 he was called to the First church of Philadelphia, where he spent the remainder of his diligent and honorable life, only giving over the responsible charge of the church to a colleague two years ago.

The first ten years of his service in Philadelphia was a time of general revival in religion, into which he entered with his whole soul. In analyzing the methods of presenting divine truth most favorable to revivals, he adopted views of theology decidedly in harmony with those prevailing in New England, which were objected to by the more rigid Presbyterians, who, under the lead of Dr. Junkin, commenced a prosecution against him for heresy advanced in his book on Atonement. The case was carried by appeal from the presbytery to the Synod of Philadelphia, and thence to the General Assembly, then meeting at Pittsburg. Here the sentence of suspension was reversed, and he returned to his work, after an enforced silence of a whole year, which he had endured with great patience for the sake of church order. This prosecution had much to do with the division of the Presbyterian Church, and it was a high satisfaction to Mr. Barnes that he lived to take part in the reunion, and to be welcomed to the fellowship of those from whom he had been causelessly separated for above thirty years, without any humiliating concessions or changes on either part.

In addition to his Commentaries, and several important religious works, he wrote much for periodicals. He tried his hand in a work on slavery, but failed to lead the public mind to any newer or more effective views. He was a laborious student, with clear and comprehensive views on many subjects, and an lucid and unpretending style, which made his preaching and his writings popular and highly useful. He has rounded out a valuable life, and died full of years and honors, mourned by the wise and good in many lands, who admired and profited by his voluminous writings.

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JOHN BRIGHT, the great English philanthropist, has resigned the presidency of the Board of Trade.

## Editorial Notes.

WITH the close of the year Mr. Oliver Johnson, who has been for nearly six years the able and indefatigable office-editor of this paper, withdraws from his desk. The position of office-editor is hardly less responsible than that of editor-in-chief, while it is a place in which a man never receives from the public the credit due for his work. With rare tact and fidelity Mr. Johnson has performed the duties of his position. On his retirement he received three testimonials—one from Mr. Tilton, as a token of his personal obligation and affection; one from Mr. Bowen, with the most cordial expression of his appreciation of Mr. Johnson's ability, faithfulness, and diligence; and one from his editorial associates, expressing their appreciation of him personally, and especially of his Christian courtesy in all his relations with them. It is no more than right to mention here the life-long and self-sacrificing labor of Mr. Johnson in the anti-slavery work. He was the youngest and one of the very ablest of the twelve brave men who formed the first anti-slavery society, thirty-nine years ago. At the age of twenty-two, the time at which most men are seeking their own advancement, he cast in his lot with this great cause, and through poverty and contumely he has borne the heat and burden of the day. Though now past sixty, his physical and intellectual power is not abated. Mr. Johnson leaves his difficult and delicate position with the personal esteem and affection of every one associated with him. May the blessing of God rest upon his whitening hairs. Letters for Mr. Johnson should hereafter be addressed to him at his residence, 128 East 12th street, New York, or to the *Tribune* office.

.... Frederick Douglass, alluding to the advice given by Senator Revels to the Freedmen of the South, to "cultivate the most friendly relations with their former masters, and never to let the recollection of a stripe they have received influence their conduct," says:

"This is like Senator Revels. He is an amiable man, has always been free, and has, perhaps, not a 'stripe' on his back to forget. Such men are apt to find it easy to forget stripes laid upon other men's backs, and can as easily exhort them to forget them. For our part, having felt the lash, and having a vivid recollection of the sensations it produced, we find it hard to forget our stripes, or to exhort others of similar experience to forget their stripes. If a man is not to remember his stripes, we do not know for what the organ of memory was placed in his head. We say to the colored citizens of the United States, Remember well your 'stripes' when you go to the polls, and remember the class of men by whom they were laid on. There is much more reason to fear that the colored man will forget than that he will remember his past condition. While we live, we shall endeavor to put them in mind of it, and of the lessons it teaches. The man who does not hate with an implacable hate the whole system of bondage which for two hundred and fifty years ground down his race in this country cannot truly love his newly-acquired liberty, or be depended upon to properly guard that liberty. We insist upon it, and he will not burn it out of us, that no colored voter shall either forget or forgive the men who have enslaved him until they have repented, and given evidence of that repentance by doing justice to the colored race."

....The Illinois state-prison is in a bad way. It was for a long time governed by a remorseless ring, and all the brave efforts made of late years to reform it have been embarrassed by the intrigues of that ring. Andrew Shuman, Esq., one of the ablest and most philanthropic of commissioners, retired some time ago on account of the difficulties thrown in the way of the right management of the institution. And now Geo. W. Perkins, the very excellent and able warden, retires from the fight, to take charge of the state reform school. Then the contract system is entirely abolished, when the employés of the old ring are all dismissed, and when the contractors and managers who seek to make money out of the prison are safely and hospitably housed in its comfortable cells, there will be hope for the institution.

....We had not supposed that anybody accepted the burlesque reports of Sunday sermons in the *Herald* as anything more than fictions founded on facts; and yet the *United Presbyterian* of Pittsburg, Pa., copies from one of them, and allows its readers to suppose that "roars of laughter" echoed through the Brooklyn Tabernacle on a late Sabbath, as the preacher (who is represented as being Beecher; he must have exchanged that day) described in pantomime the "Popinjay of Europe." We are told that the enthusiasm was immense, and "that one pious individual encored so loudly and persistently that he had to be squelched by a volley of *sh's!*" We find that the *Herald* reports are not only faintly believed in Pittsburg, but that some English papers accept them as *unvarnished facts!*

....The English Congregationalists are quite indignant at what they call the impertinence of the High Churchmen in sending a bishop to Madagascar, where they have but two clergymen, to stir up strife in the churches organized by the London Missionary Society. A correspondent, however, of the *English Independent*, without a word of railing, kindly suggests an apt scriptural name for the new bishopric, which he would have called the "Allotrioepiscopate of Madagascar," the name being derived from the Greek word *allotrioepiscopos*, found in I Peter, iv., 15. The learned editor of the *Advance* has detected the sarcasm concealed in the suggestion, as the word is translated in the English version "a busybody in other men's matters"!

....In our department of "Current Religious Views," three or four weeks ago, we copied an extract of a funeral discourse by Rev. Arthur B. Bradford, remarking that he was (if we were not mistaken) still connected with the Presbyterian Church, and that the man whom he eulogized was a friend of humanity, but not a member of any religious sect. Mr. M. P. Barker, of Newcastle, Pa., informs us that Mr. Bradford has "dropped out of the Presbyterian Church, and that the man whose funeral discourse he preached had been a member of a church since 1844, and that he attended public worship until hindered by bodily infirmity."

....Some branches of scientific study are especially adapted to women, and none more so than astronomy. We notice in the list of the English astronomers who were to go to Sicily to observe the total eclipse of last week the names of Mrs. Lockyer, as assistant to her husband in observations with the spectroscope, and Mrs. Bowen, as assistant to Professor Roscoe in the same department. In our own country Miss Mitchell is the only lady we can recall who swings the "optic glass."

....In England to-day, in the last half of the nineteenth century, any Nonconformist minister who shall preach in a house of worship of the Established Church, or in any place except a regularly licensed Nonconformist chapel, is liable by the laws to three months' imprisonment! It is no wonder that Mr. Miall is prepared to bring before the next Parliament a bill to abolish the National Establishment.

....Like apples of gold in pictures of silver is the exceedingly forceful and timely article of Vice-President Colfax, on the first page of the present number. Our readers will be glad to know that, among the many eminent writers who are to contribute to these columns during the coming year, we are able definitely to announce the Vice-President.

## New York and Vicinity.

THE American Board estimate the Presbyterians who remain attached to it will give for the current year about $80,000, and that to meet the requirements of of the treasury the whole body of Congregational churches will need to advance their contributions about one-quarter above last year. To secure this, they look for a much larger advance among the wealthier churches. It was desired that a key-note might be struck in the Church of the Pilgrims. The pastor, Dr. R. S. Storrs, Jr., proposed that they should increase at least one-half upon their past year's contribution, which was about three thousand dollars. The collection was taken last Sunday, after an impressive missionary sermon by Professor Green, of Princeton Seminary, and the amount was found to be five thousand dollars. Now let other rich churches follow suit.

....Several well-known Friends in this city have been appointed to collect funds to aid the women and children and other non-combatant victims of the war in France; said funds to be expended by the Committee of the Society of Friends in London, by whom sub-committees have been selected, who have volunteered to act without compensation, and to visit the localities ravaged by the contending armies, inspect the necessities of the people, and relieve, as far as possible, the cases of actual want. Subscriptions may be sent to William Wood, 61 Walker Street.

....John Lord, LL.D., has for the last two winters given in Boston a course of historical lectures for ladies, that have been very largely attended and greatly enjoyed. We are not sorry to learn that he proposes to give in this city a similar course of twenty-five lectures, extending over the first three months of the year. We would especially recommend them to young ladies who have finished their course of education, and who would be interested to make them the text of some historical reading.

## Religious Intelligence.

THE immense preponderance in the German Roman Catholic literary institutions is still against the dogma of infallibility. At least 95 per cent. of the lay professors and 80 per cent. of the theological professors are in the opposition. The Bavarian Government supports Döllinger and the University of Munich, although there is a report that the Archbishop of Munich may yield on this point. The Roman Catholic professors at Bonn have all signed a written adhesion to the decrees of the Vatican Council, while those of Breslau have all protested against its action. Of the forty-five bishops of Austria and Hungary, who constituted the nucleus of the opposition in Rome, 26 remain firm, including the 19 of Hungary, as also do Cardinals Rauscher and Schwartzenberg. Of the bishops of Prussia and Western Germany, 15 have lately signed the second Fulda pastoral in favor of yielding to the Council; though it is said that but 3 or 4 are genuine Infallibilists, and quite a number signed it unwillingly, and will take no steps to enforce the decree. Six German prelates, including Bishop Hefele and the Bishop of Breslau, have withheld their signatures. In England, Bishop Clifford is still strongly antagonistic; but in Ireland and America we believe that not one of the opposition has stood firm.

....Under the Papal Government no processions were allowed in Rome except of an ecclesiastical character. Since Rome has passed into the hands of the Italians, its people have gone to the opposite extreme, and demonstrations of this sort have been very numerous. An imposing demonstration, accompanied by a procession a mile long, took place at the funeral of Capt. Ripa, who died of a wound received while storming the *Porta Pia*. Those managing it did not ask for any priest to conduct the religious services, as they feared none would be granted. But, when they arrived at the cemetery of *Santo Spirito*, Father Grossi, the director of this burying-ground, blessed the body and took charge of the funeral. He refused the usual compensation, saying that he felt it an honor to be permitted to perform the last offices for an Italian soldier who had thus fallen, and that he would consider it still more of an honor if the ecclesiastical authorities should punish him for so doing. This honor they have conferred, as he has been excommunicated and dismissed from office for the offense.

.... The Methodist Episcopal statistics just published report 9,193 traveling preachers—an increase of 363 over last year; 11,404 local preachers; 1,173,099 full members—an increase of 58,387; and 194,055 probationers—an increase of 9,809. It is evident that, as usual, a very large proportion of the probationers cease to become full members. There are 13,373 churches—an increase of 1,325, or of 3½ every day of the year. There has been a decrease of membership in the Maine, Georgia, Holston, Tenn., Louisiana, and St. Louis Conferences, some of which show that the Northern Methodists within their bounds are unsuccessfully competing with the Southern and colored Methodist churches. But other Southern conferences—as Alabama, North and South Carolina, Mississippi, and Texas—show a gratifying increase. During the six years from 1865 there has been a steady increase in the number of infant baptisms reported, from 32,891 to 50,453. There are 16,912 Sunday-schools, with 189,412 officers, and 1,221,393 scholars—an increase of 4,816.

....The United Presbyterians of Scotland are passing in all their presbyteries nearly unanimous resolutions in favor of ecclesiastical union, while the other party, the Free Presbyterians, are doing the same, but with strong minorities against the measure. The only Free presbytery which has voted against union is a Gaelic one, in the extreme north of Scotland. At the meeting of the Edinburgh Presbytery the report of the late delegation to America was presented as passing upon them all considerations of their own honor and dignity. But let us never sacrifice our honor and dignity so far as to threaten. Justice we must have, if we can get it by fair means. But "let us have peace."

....Dr. Marvin, of the *Boston Daily News*, and formerly of the *Boston Recorder*, has issued *The Church*, a new religious paper. It was in anticipation of this action that the publishers of *The Congregationalist* issued *The Recorder*, as a small, cheap, and purely religious paper.

....Since 1846 the Presbyterian churches in New York have increased from 26, with 10,474 members, to 41, with 15,969 members. During this time 17 churches have died out or been amalgamated with others. Of these last 7 were "free" churches.

....The "Woman's Board of Missions of the Interior" has been practically an auxiliary of the American Board. The Presbyterian ladies of Chicago and vicinity have just left it to form an organization auxiliary to their own Board.

....The Methodist Freedmen's Aid Society reports the receipt of $83,719 last year, of which $14,000 were paid by freedmen to support the schools. The Society has 53 primary schools, 7 normal schools and colleges, 110 teachers, and 10,000 pupils in day schools.

....The English Evangelical Alliance has issued an eloquent appeal in behalf of the Lutherans of the Baltic provinces of Russia against their persecution by the Greek Church of that Empire.

....Something of a schism is produced in the Papal Armenian Church by the refusal of 50 priests to acquiesce in the election of the Patriarch of Cilicia. The Pope threatens them with excommunication.

....The Washburne Will case has been submitted to referees. The Bible Society and Mrs. Washburne each choose one, who will choose a third.

....The Methodist Book Concern has a capital of $1,458,575. It was founded in 1789, on a capital of $600, loaned by a Methodist preacher.

....Lafayette College, Easton, Pa., has been enjoying such a revival as it has never before experienced.

## News of the Week.

ON the 20th and 21st inst. the French forces in Paris made another series of sorties—or, rather, several feints on different portions of the Prussian besieging lines, and one general assault to the north of the city, carrying several points, but failing to break through the lines. Evidently, the sortie was planned in conjunction with a movement on the part of the French Army of the North, under Gen. Faidherbe, which forces marched from Amiens toward the capital, 60,000 strong, for the purpose of co-operating in the endeavor of Gen. Trochu to force a passage through the Prussian lines. But while still sixty miles from the city the forces of Faidherbe were attacked by two divisions of the Prussian corps under Gen. Manteuffel, who was recently threatening Havre, and, after a severe fight, they were completely routed, with a loss of 1,000 prisoners. Thus the plan for raising the siege appears to have signally failed in all its details. King William, in a dispatch to Queen Augusta, says: "The French made a sortie in the direction of Staines and Bourget, prompted by the mistaken idea that a French army of relief was approaching. Many French prisoners were taken in the assault on the Saxon position. The sortie was easily repulsed. The cold is intense." The Paris journals, received by balloon since the fight, estimate the French killed and wounded in the sortie at about 800. They also claim to have taken many German prisoners. A correspondent, writing from Paris on the 12th inst., says: "We have arrived at starvation point. The supply of meat will last but a few days longer. To save fuel, many of the inhabitants remain in bed all day. If it had been properly timed, Ducrot's sortie might have succeeded. In the event of the failure of the next sortie, Ducrot, Favre, and others of the government will leave Paris by balloon, to prosecute the war in the provinces. Trochu will remain until the surrender of the city."....Of that portion of the French Army of the Loire now under Gen. Chauzy a dispatch from Havre states that a rumor was prevalent there that the French have been defeated by the combined armies of the Duke of Mecklenburg and Prince Frederick Charles, and are now in full retreat. Dispatches from Bordeaux, however, place Gen. Chauzy's command at Le Mans, where he has been re-enforced and reprovisioned, and no mention is made of any recent general engagement between his forces and the Prussians. We are unable to determine the truth of these rumors in true for this issue; but, as a Versailles dispatch stated on the 23d inst. that the left wing of the Prussian forces operating against the Army of the Loire was advancing on Tours, and the right wing on Le Mans, there is a strong probability that the Havre dispatch is in the main correct. Moreover, we learn that the left wing has already accomplished its object. After a severe engagement near Tours, in which the French troops assigned to defend that city fought bravely for seven hours, they were driven from their position; and the Prussians threatening to bombard the town if not surrendered, the mayor complied with their demands, there being no longer any troops to defend it.....Gen. Manteuffel, who appears to have temporarily turned aside from his operations against Havre to intercept Gen. Faidherbe's march for the relief of Paris, is reported to be again advancing on the former town, with a much larger force than before. ....The capture of Nuits by the Prussians portends an advance on Lyons, about one hundred miles distant, and in a rich agricultural valley, at the head of which stands Nuits. The Prussians will evidently meet but little opposition, and they will have a comparatively easy march through the very garden of France.....Thionville has capitulated, with 5,000 French prisoners. During the siege 50,000 shells were thrown into the city, involving damages to the extent of $5,000,000....The siege of Belfort goes on vigorously. Fresh batteries will be generally approved and greatly admired.

I am, very truly yours,
HUGH McCULLOCH.

*From Hon. Edward Pates, late Attorney-General of the United States.*

The individual portraits are very life-like. Indeed, I have never seen a group of seven or eight figures all of which so truly presented the originals.

The execution seems to me excellent, and, without any opinion of mine, my dear sir, your work is a *manifest* success.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
EDWARD BATES.

*From Postmaster-General Dennison.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 3d, 1866.

It gives me very great pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of the admirable engraving from your noble painting of "The First Reading of the Emancipation Proclamation before the Cabinet," by our late lamented President.

The approving judgment of the country of the merit of the picture, and the justness of its association with Trumbull's "Declaration of Independence," as a great national painting, which has been so universally conceded, cannot fail to commend the engraving to every truly patriotic American citizen.

Truly yours, W. DENNISON.

*From Secretary Harlan.*

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CARD.

**FARMERS' AND MECHANICS'**

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY,

317 BROADWAY, NEW YORK.

TONTINE MUTUAL DEPARTMENT.
Dec. 23d, 1870.

*Mr. Editor—Sir*:—Your article of Nov. 10th in regard to this company was erroneous. NEVER HAVING DONE ANY "CO-OPERATIVE" BUSINESS, we COULD NOT HAVE ABANDONED IT. Our "Tontine Mutual System" is VERY DIFFERENT from the "CO-OPERATIVE" plan. This Company issues POLICIES of INSURANCE, NOT CERTIFICATES of MEMBERSHIP.

Our Tontine is PURELY MUTUAL, BECAUSE we do not charge for Insurance on THIS system; but ENABLE people to Insure each other, as may be learned on application at our office, and will be more fully explained in these columns next week.

*Report of the Insurance Department of the State of New York, April 1st, 1870:*

PAGE XXIII.

Net Policy Reserve, Computed by Department.....$ 49,057 83
Surplus as regards Policyholders, 117,177 28

FARMERS' AND MECHANICS' LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK.

**THE PHRENOLOGICAL JOURNAL.**

THE January number of this best of family magazines is one of peculiar interest to every reader of THE INDEPENDENT; for, besides the usual amount of most instructive and interesting matter, it contains a striking sketch with a most striking group of portraits of "THE BEECHERS OF TO-DAY." Here we have Henry Ward Beecher, Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe, Catharine E., Edward, Charles, and Thomas K. Beecher. Truly an interesting group of portraits, and we do not know where one could be found which would be of greater interest to a greater number of people. The likenesses are said to be the most accurate ever presented, and the sketch is full of interest.

Send for the work, and judge for yourselves. We would also mention the fine portrait and sketch of H. B. CLAFLIN, the eminent merchant, whose fame extends over the nation. There is also an article on chemistry, by Prof. Joy, of Columbia College. The *Journal* promises for the coming year to be, what it has been in the past, one of the best magazines of the day.

*The Christian Union* says:

"The PHRENOLOGICAL JOURNAL has for twenty years been well known as a popular storehouse of useful thought. It teaches men to know themselves, and constantly presents matter of the highest interest to intelligent readers. It has many thousands of subscribers, and has the advantage of having always been not only 'up with the times,' but *a little in advance*. Its popularity shows the result of enterprise and brains."

It is published at the low rate of $3.00 a year, or 30 cents a single number.

S. R. WELLS, Publisher, 389 Broadway, N. Y.

**A. T. STEWART & CO.**

WE take pleasure in calling attention to the advertisement of the above firm, in another column. Under the skillful management of the senior partner, Mr. A. T. Stewart, this firm has acquired wealth and influence so potent as to tax the wonder and pride of the country. They have educated hundreds and thousands of our young men for mercantile pursuits, which—under the rule established in their various departments, requiring in all dealings strictly truthful representations relative to quality and price, ignoring the payment of commissions on sales, and substituting good salaries in lieu—has had an important effect. It protects the buyer, and imbues the clerk with principles of justice, integrity, and honor, thereby fitting him for places of trust and usefulness. This character of training is not even second in its influence and importance for good even to the munificence of his princely revenue bestowed by Mr. Stewart upon charitable and benevolent as well as upon acts of great public merit, which have covered his name with renown.

The example of the success of this great firm is useful in all respects; especially when we consider that to principles of integrity, combined with business enterprise and activity, are the members of the firm indebted for the leading position they hold in the mercantile community.

**HOLIDAY GIFTS.**

IF you want an exquisite, chaste, and magnificently-finished tea-set, or a rich and brilliant fruit-stand, elegant soup tureens and vegetable-dishes, indeed, any article of table or fancy ware in electro plating, go to headquarters, where you will be sure to get a genuine and durable article, and at a reasonable price. Everybody knows of the unparalleled excellence of the wares made for nearly a quarter of a century by the Meriden Britannia Co., of this city. These wares have always been fully up to the latest styles, and always of the finest finish. Among their other novelties in their favorite Coffee Pots an apparatus for making the favorite beverage in its purity and excellence, without loss of strength or aroma, in a half-minute of time. Get one, if you would always have good coffee. Until New Year's Day this house will supply patrons with wares at retail. Embrace this favorable opportunity at once. Remember the name and location, 199 Broadway.



**INVESTING MONEY.**

SPECIAL attention is invited to the advertisements in our columns of those bankers who offer first-class railroad bonds, etc., for sale. Many are now selling Governments and other stocks, and converting the proceeds into good *first mortgage* railroad bonds.

Our subscribers will please understand that they can send money, government bonds, or any kind of securities to this office, to be sold and the proceeds converted into any stocks or railroad bonds *advertised in* THE INDEPENDENT. No charge whatever will be made for our services. In most cases we can obtain a *better price* for securities to be thus exchanged than if sent direct to a broker or banker, besides saving broker's commission. This offer is made only to our subscribers, who oftentimes neglect to make investments simply because they fear to make a remittance to an unknown party. In all cases explicit directions must be given. Address HENRY C. BOWEN, Publisher of THE INDEPENDENT, 3 Park Place, New York.

**HOLIDAY PRESENTS.**

EITHER of our beautiful engravings will make a splendid holiday present. Old subscribers who want them for that special purpose, but whose subscriptions do not expire until January or afterward, may renew their subscriptions *upon the terms proposed* (or premium column) and remit now, receive the engravings ordered by return mail, and be credited with the money, to apply when due. To all such we will send a proper receipt. This general notice is given as answer to inquiries made on the subject referred to. These remarks, of course, do not apply to those who desire the engravings as a premium for *new subscribers*, but to such as ask them for a renewal of their own subscriptions for the number of years—as mentioned in our premium column.

Our engravings are going into every section of the country by thousands, with never a single complaint of dissatisfaction. We believe no holiday present of equal value can so easily and so cheaply be obtained as one of these popular steel engravings.

**HOLIDAY PRESENTS.**

IF any one of our readers is in doubt about the kind of holiday present to make, let us suggest one that will never fail to give joy both to the giver and receiver. Go at once and buy a good Piano. You never will regret it. You will have music and joy, smiles and peace, in the house perpetually. Well, where shall we go to buy such an instrument? Our answer is, that there are a good many places; but that having tested the matter in regard to one manufacturer, we can speak positively on that subject. We say Decker Brothers; and most respectfully invite all our readers who have determined to buy a good, reliable, perfect instrument to give this firm a call. If they will do this, they will soon make a wise decision, and have a first-rate Piano in the house.

**LIFE INSURANCE AGENTS.**

THE National Life Insurance Company of New York is conceded to be one of the most popular, liberal, and successful in the country; is extending its business throughout the United States, besides having established one agency in Europe, which is in the full tide of success.

The agencies it has already established are thriving and paying; and those it is about establishing will doubtless prove equally compensating.

To Life Agents of experience, integrity, and ability this Company presents unusual inducements; and they will be dealt with in spirit of cordiality and liberal encouragement.

Agents with the requisite qualifications will do well to communicate with the officers of the Company, at 212 Broadway, without delay.

HORACE GREELEY'S ESSAYS, "What I Know of Farming," which have been published in THE TRIBUNE every week during 1870, are to be printed in pamphlet form; and a copy will be sent postpaid to each subscriber who sends $10 for THE DAILY, $4 for THE SEMI-WEEKLY, and $2 for THE WEEKLY TRIBUNE, and requests the book at the time of subscribing. This will enable old subscribers to secure the Essays for preservation, on renewing their subscriptions; and new subscribers will, of course, be glad to obtain them, free of cost. See advertisement.

☞ $1,000 Reward will be paid by the proprietor of Dr. Pierce's Alt. Ext. or Golden Medical Discovery for a medicine that will equal it in curing all the diseases for which it is recommended. In the cure of severe and lingering Coughs, Bronchitis, and Diseases of the Lungs, and as a blood-purifier and strengthening medicine it cannot be too highly recommended. It acts promptly upon the liver, removing torpor or "biliousness." Sold by druggists.

**DOOLEY'S YEAST POWDER**

is put up in packages to suit the wants of all. Superior to any other Baking Powder in market, and economical, economical, and wholesome. A single trial will convince the most skeptical that it is, as represented, the most reliable, healthy, and cheapest ever offered to consumers.

**THE NEW YORK TIMES.**

A POLITICAL, LITERARY, AND MISCELLANEOUS NEWSPAPER.

THE NEW YORK TIMES—started in September, 1851—has for many years been recognized as among the most successful, popular, and influential newspapers in the country. Its proprietors, with greatly increased resources and experience, will spare no pains to extend and strengthen its claims upon the confidence and support of the public.

The TIMES is a Republican journal, and will be devoted, as in the past, to an intelligent and firm support of the Republican party. It will sustain, with all its ability, the principles and policy which have rendered the party so justly famous in our history. It will advocate those measures by which the honor, the peace, and the prosperity of the nation can be best conserved and promoted. It will vindicate our dignity before foreign nations, and will discountenance aught by which our self-respect or our love for republican institutions could be endangered.

The TIMES desires to be judged by the highest possible standard of journalism. Its EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT will be conducted in a spirit of fairness and impartiality, free alike from personal rancor or undue favoritism; and will be the production of the ablest and most experienced writers upon all the subjects treated. Its CORRESPONDENCE will be full and timely. Its REPORTS will be prepared with the utmost care, and will embrace every fact or public expression of opinion that possesses interest and importance. The LITERARY DEPARTMENT will be in thoroughly capable hands, and will present a full review of the literature, the fine arts, the music, and the drama of the day.

As a family paper—free from all appeals to vulgar or impure tastes, the TIMES will continue unexceptionable, and may be safely admitted to every domestic circle.

The Sunday edition of the TIMES will include, in addition to all the news, selected and original literary matter of the most varied and agreeable character. Special arrangements have been made to impart new attractions to this feature of the paper.

The WEEKLY and SEMI-WEEKLY editions of the TIMES will be compiled with the greatest care, and will contain selections from the most important contents of the Daily issue, besides matters of interest to the agricultural sections of the country. All who prefer a newspaper but once or twice a week will find these editions admirably suited to their requirements.

A special edition of the TIMES for EUROPEAN circulation will be published every Wednesday and Saturday, in time for the European mails, and will be valuable and welcome to our friends abroad, whether Americans or of any other nationality than our own.

All these editions of the TIMES are of the very largest size, on large quarto sheets, each containing *fifty-six* columns, printed in clear and legible type, at the following rates:

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These prices are invariable. We have no traveling agents. Remit in drafts on New York or Post-office Money Orders, if possible; and, where neither of these can be procured, send the money in a *registered* letter. All Postmasters are obliged to register letters when requested to do so, and the system is an absolute protection against losses by mail. Address

H. J. RAYMOND & CO.,
TIMES Office, New York.

**NOTICE.**

THE NEW MORNING STAR.

All Sabbath-schools in churches that carry on their foreign missionary work through the American Board are invited to make a special collection, on the second Sabbath of January, for a new ship to carry the Gospel to the Islands of Micronesia. Ten thousand dollars are needed besides the insurance money received for the one lost. Will the children give the money?

On one island, called Tapliecan, first visited by missionaries not two years ago, Mr. Bingham writes that 1,200 persons have learned to read, that church services have been held, and a second church begun. Ought we not to send the Gospel to these people? We must have the ship to do it. Send in at once to LANGDON S. WARD, Treas. Missionary House, Boston.

N. G. CLARK, Jr., Sec. A. B. C. F. M.
MISSIONARY HOUSE, Dec. 20th, 1870.

**BUSINESS NOTICES.**

**WILLIMANTIC LINEN CO.'S**

TOP LABEL — New Six Cord — BOTTOM LABEL

**SOFT FINISH SPOOL COTTON.**

A Thread, as will be seen from the following certificates,

**PARTICULARLY ADAPTED TO SEWING MACHINES.**

**Office of Wheeler & Wilson Sewing Machine Company, 625 Broadway,**

We have thoroughly tested the new Six Cord Thread of the Willimantic Linen Co., and find it superior to any other in the market, and warmly recommend it to the sewing purchasers and users of the Wheeler & Wilson and other Sewing Machines.

WHEELER & WILSON SEWING MACHINE CO.

**Weed Sewing Machine Company.**

HARTFORD, August 29th, 1868.

WILLIMANTIC LINEN CO.—GENTS:—During the last six months we have thoroughly tested your Improved Spool Cotton in various ways—using it in "running in" and inspecting our Machine at the Factory, dispatching Machines to customers, and doing all kinds of work, to cut out the variously ing the demands from our Wholesale and retail trade; in short, using and placing it in every requirement; and now take pleasure in saying that we neither expect nor desire to find it superior, as that which you furnish answers every wish, whether for strength, smoothness, or uniformity.

Yours, very respectfully, E. L. CLARK, Sec'y.

**Office of the Florence Sewing Machine Company,**

FLORENCE, MASS., January 15th, 1870.

We have thoroughly tested the new Six Cord Thread of the Willimantic Linen Co., and find it superior to any Silicon in the market, and warmly recommend it to the sewing purchasers and users of the Florence and other Sewing Machines. FLORENCE SEWING MACHINE CO.

**Office of TRACY & BILL, Importers and Manufacturers of Machine Folded Six Cord Sewing Machine Thread, 326 Broadway, Cor. of Crosby St.**

New York, September 18th, 1869.

MESSRS. GEO. S. MOULTON & CO., *Agents Willimantic Linen Co.*—GENTS:—We have put upon our Six Cord Sewing Machine Thread a thorough trial on our STEAM POWER SEWING MACHINES, (the severest test a Thread can be put to), and it runs to our entire satisfaction. In our estimation, it possesses all the qualities of a perfect Six Cord Thread. Respectfully yours, TRACY & BILL.

GEO. S. MOULTON & CO., 101 Chambers St.,
SOLE AGENTS IN NEW YORK.

**THE MERCANTILE LOAN AND WAREHOUSE COMPANY,**

**WITH FIRE AND BURGLAR PROOF SAFE DEPOSIT VAULTS,**

*In the Granite and Iron EQUITABLE BUILDING,*

**CORNER OF BROADWAY AND CEDAR STREET, NEW YORK CITY,**

receives BONDS, GOLD, and SILVER PLATE, by the DAY, MONTH, or YEAR, under GUARANTEE. RENTS SAFES within the GREAT VAULT at $15 to $100 per annum, affording retired accommodations for handling securities.

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BANKERS,

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Gold and Currency received on deposit, subject to check at sight.

Interest allowed on Currency Accounts at the rate of Four per Cent. per annum, credited at the end of each month.

ALL CHECKS DRAWN ON US PASS THROUGH THE CLEARING-HOUSE, AND ARE RECEIVED ON DEPOSIT BY ALL THE CITY BANKS.

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NEW YORK, OSWEGO, AND MIDLAND RAILROAD first mortgage 7 per cent. bonds, free of Government tax, principal and interest payable in gold. Price par and accrued interest in currency.

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The attention of investors is invited to these well-secured Bonds, and upon application full information will be furnished.

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CHOICE

**CITY AND COUNTY BONDS,**

PAYING

**10 PER CENT. & OVER,**

FREE OF ALL TAXES.

FIRST CLASS SECURITIES of undoubted character; bought and sold.

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Orders promptly executed at the N. Y. Stock Exchange and Gold Room.

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Collections made on all parts of the United States and Canadas.

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SIX PER CENT. interest on $5 to $5,000.

Money deposited now will bear interest from Jan. 1st.

ASSETS - - - $8,012,460.76.

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IN

# ONE YEAR

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# CHRISTIAN UNION

has leaped to a circulation surpassed by only one Religious Journal in the United States, and that one over twenty-two years old.

**WHY IS IT?**

BECAUSE; First,

**HENRY WARD BEECHER**

is its Editor, and the *Editorials, Star Papers*, and *Lecture Room Talks* are welcomed by thousands and thousands of Christians *everywhere*, who want thoroughly good and attractive reading, and who have at heart the interest of the whole Church of Christ; while the paper is full of admirable reading matter on every live topic of the day, *the CONTRIBUTORS being representative men of ALL Denominations.*

BECAUSE; Secondly,

**ITS FORM,**

*it is the Brightest and Most Interesting Religious Paper published*, being quoted from by the press of the entire country, more extensively than any other. The whole editorial work being in the hands of experienced and cultivated men.

BECAUSE; Fourthly,

*It has something for every Member of the Household.* Admirable contributed and editorial articles, discussing all the great topics of the day; fresh information on unhackneyed subjects; much matter of a high and pure religious tone; Poems, Household Stories, and Chat for the little ones.

BECAUSE; Fifthly,

MARSHALL'S

**Household Engraving of Washington,**

a Fine Impression of which is PRESENTED to every New Subscriber to the paper, is a really superb work of art, a subject appealing to every American, and, as was said by

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"*In, beyond all question, the best head, engraved in line, yet produced in this country, as well as the finest copy of Stuart's portrait.*"

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A New and Charming Serial,

**MY WIFE AND I;**

Or, HARRY HENDERSON'S HISTORY, by

**HARRIET BEECHER STOWE,**

has been commenced in the CHRISTIAN UNION—a story of to-day, which promises to be one of the most vivid and interesting works that ever came from her pen. This story alone would be well worth taking the paper for, even if unaccompanied by the great variety and richness of other matter. And the paper is sent

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The Subscription Price is

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HORACE WATERS, 481 Broadway, N. Y., will dispose of ONE HUNDRED PIANOS, MELODEONS, and ORGANS, of six first class makers, including Waters' and Chickering's, *at extremely low prices, for cash, during the Holidays*; or will take from $4 to $50 monthly, until paid. The same to let, and rent-money applied if purchased.

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SECURED BY A FIRST MORTGAGE ON THE ROAD TO THE UNION TRUST COMPANY OF NEW YORK CITY, WHERE PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST ARE PAYABLE IN GOLD. INTEREST QUARTERLY—JANUARY, APRIL, JULY, AND OCTOBER.

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IT PASSES CONTIGUOUS TO A LARGE NUMBER OF VALUABLE BLUE STONE-QUARRIES, AND RUNS THROUGH AND NEAR SOME 15,000 ACRES OF HEAVY TIMBERED LAND, ALL OF WHICH, WHEN MARKETED, WILL COME OVER THIS ROAD, SO THAT ITS LOCAL TRADE IS MORE THAN SUFFICIENT TO MEET ALL DEMANDS. BESIDES THESE ASSURANCES, THE TIME IS NOT REMOTE WHEN THIS WILL FORM A LINK IN A TRUNK ROAD FROM OGDENSBURG TO THIS CITY.

THE UNDERSIGNED OFFER THE REMAINDER OF THE BONDS AT 87 AND INTEREST IN CURRENCY, WITH PRIVILEGE OF ADVANCING PRICE WITHOUT NOTICE, AND WE RECOMMEND THEM AS DESIRABLE FOR PERMANENT INVESTMENT, HAVING THE FULLEST CONFIDENCE THAT THEY ARE FIRST-CLASS SECURITIES. TO THIS CITY.

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Bankers,

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*We Buy and Sell Government Bonds, and receive the Accounts of Banks, Bankers, Corporations, and others, subject to check at sight, and allow interest on daily balances.*

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See previous advertisements in THE INDEPENDENT.

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PARIS, 1867.

WHEELER & WILSON No. 625 BROADWAY N.Y., Awarded, over Eighty-two Competitors THE HIGHEST PREMIUM.

**A GOLD MEDAL,**

for the perfection of Sewing Machines and Button-hole Machines. The only Gold Medal for this branch of manufacture.

**B. A FAHNESTOCKS VERMIFUCE**

**CAUTION.**

Should occasion require you to purchase B. A. Fahnestock's Vermifuge, be particularly careful to see that the initials are *B. A.* This is the article that has been so

FAVORABLY KNOWN SINCE 1829,

and purchasers must insist on having it, if they do not wish to have an imitation forced upon them.

**Schwartz & Haslett,**

FORMERLY

B. A. FAHNESTOCK'S SON & CO.,

SOLE PROPRIETORS,

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**THE PIANO PREMIUMS.**

**"THE DECKER"**

**TAKES THE RIBBON.**

It was among the most important triumphs of the DECKER BROTHERS' PIANO that it captured, OVER THE FIRST PREMIUMS at the Northern Ohio Fair last week. Mr. DREHER, the Agent of the DECKER BROTHERS' instruments in this city, had on exhibition two Square Pianos and one Grand.

Steinway, Chickering, and several other noted makers were on exhibition; but, notwithstanding everything the COMMITTEE AWARDED

BOTH FIRST PREMIUMS TO THE DECKER:

One to the Grand, the other to the Square Piano.

*—From the "Cleveland Daily Leader," October 10th.*

B. DREHER, at Cleveland, and D. H. BALDWIN, at Cincinnati, O., are Agents for these celebrated Pianos.

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**DECKER BROTHERS,**

**33 Union Square, New York,**

BETWEEN 16th AND 17th STREETS.

**HAINES BROS.,**

**PIANO-FORTE MANUFACTURERS,**

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**Second Avenue, cor. 21st St., NEW YORK.**

NAPOLEON J. HAINES. FRANCIS W. HAINES.

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**"THE AMERICAN PIANO,"**

MANUFACTURED BY

**DOANE, WING, CUSHING & SMITH,**

**423 BROOME STREET, N. Y.**

"For finish and elegant workmanship, as well as for power, elasticity of touch, and sweetness of tone, it stands unrivaled."—*The Liberal Christian*, N. Y., Dec. 18th, 1869.

"Its superior qualities of tone, its excellence of workmanship, and the beauty of its finish are rapidly extending its popularity."—*The Christian Union*, N. Y., Sept. 8th, 1870.

"It contains every improvement that goes to make a first-class piano, and it is deservedly popular wherever it is known."—*The Standard*, Chicago, Oct. 6th, 1870.

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**MONUMENTS, MANTELS, COUNTERS, WAINSCOTING, FLOOR-TILING, FURNITURE AND PLUMBERS' SLABS.**

**HENRY PARRY,**

MANUFACTURER and IMPORTER. } WAREROOMS, 588 and 590 Fourth Avenue, between 32d and 33d Sts. } STEAM MARBLE WORKS, 121, 123, and 125 East Twenty-second Street, New York.

CADE'S DEVONSHIRE CRAB-APPLE

**CHAMPAGNE CYDER.**

Manufactured at Devonshire, England. Imported in cases of quarts and pints.

A TRUE TEMPERANCE BEVERAGE! PURE JUICE OF CRAB-APPLE! NO ALCOHOL!!

Prof. JOHN DARBY, Editor *American Grocer*, says: "We have analyzed a sample of this remarkable article. . . . A very thorough examination shows that it is *the pure juice of the apple, with no alcohol!!* and can only be classed with fruits. It is a healthful and delicious beverage. . . . *A GRAND TEMPERANCE DRINK! INVALIDS AND DYSPEPTICS, WILL FIND IN IT A PURE, BENEFICIAL BEVERAGE, WARRANTED TO AGREE WITH THE MOST DELICATE STOMACH!*"

Address for prices, etc.,

HAWKINS & CO., 15 Whitehall Street, N. Y., General Agents.

**EXCELSIOR SAVINGS BANK,**

**368 SIXTH AVE. (Booth's Theater),**

**INTEREST AT THE RATE OF SEVEN PER CENT. PER ANNUM**

will be paid on all sums remaining in Bank Jan. 1st, 1871, that were deposited on or before July 20th and Oct. 20th. Payable on and after the second Monday in January. Also an

**Extra Dividend of One Per Cent.**

on all sums of $1,000 and under deposited before Aug. 1st, 1869, remaining in Bank January 1st, 1871.

Money deposited now will draw interest from Jan. 1st.

WILLIAM M. CILES, President.
H. K. THURBER, } Vice-Presidents.
HUGH MURRAY, }

ISAAC S. BARRETT, Secretary.

N. B.—Parties at a distance can send deposits by *mail*, and receive book by return post.

**$1,000,000**

OF THE

**CONNECTICUT AIR-LINE BONDS**

HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFULLY NEGOTIATED,

*LEAVING BUT $500,000 UNSOLD,*

WHICH WE OFFER AT THE ORIGINAL PRICE, PAR AND INTEREST.

The solid, substantial character of the security has attracted to these bonds the attention of capitalists who prize an investment which insures the ABSOLUTE SECURITY OF THE PRINCIPAL and a liberal rate of interest.

THE BONDS are secured by a FIRST MORTGAGE on ALL THE PROPERTY of a railroad fifty-two miles in length, running through the center of the State of Connecticut, forming, with its connections, *the shortest and quickest route between Boston and New York.* The VALUE of the PROPERTY covered by the mortgage is MORE THAN DOUBLE the AMOUNT OF BONDS ISSUED.

The road is COMPLETED AND TRAINS ARE RUNNING BETWEEN NEW HAVEN AND MIDDLETOWN, while east of Middletown the unfinished portion is graded for over twenty miles, which leaves only some seven or eight miles to grade to COMPLETE THE WHOLE LINE.

Corporations, investors, and capitalists will find in the First Mortgage Bonds of this Road a form of investment SAFE, PRODUCTIVE, and CONVENIENT.

THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT IS TRUSTEE FOR THE BONDHOLDERS, and each bond is signed and issued by the Comptroller of the State. The bonds are of convenient denominations, $100 and $1,000, and can, at the option of the holder, be registered. They bear interest at the rate of SEVEN PER CENT., payable semi-annually, in May and November, in New York. They can be obtained of any bank or banker, or by sending direct to

HATCH & FOOTE,
BANKERS AND DEALERS IN GOVERNMENT SECURITIES,
No. 12 Wall Street.

**8 per Cent. Interest**

**FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS!**

OF THE ST. JOSEPH AND DENVER CITY RAILROAD COMPANY.

Principal and Interest Payable in Gold

106 MILES COMPLETED and in operation, the earnings on which are in excess of interest on the total issue. Grading finished, and only 11 miles of track are to be laid to complete the road.

Mortgage at the rate of 13,500 per mile.

Price 97½ and accrued interest.

We unhesitatingly recommend them, and will furnish maps and pamphlets on application.

**W. P. CONVERSE & CO.,**

No. 54 Pine Street, New York.

**Tanner & Co.,**

No. 49 Wall Street, New York.

**Chicago, Cincinnati AND LOUISVILLE RAILROAD**

**7 PER CENT.**

**FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS**

FOR SALE BY

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**GWYNNE, JOHNSON & DAY,**

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Gold, Governments, and other Securities bought and sold on commission.

Interest allowed on deposits.

**O. E. WOOD, 23 NASSAU ST.,**

has for sale first-class Railroad and Municipal Bonds, paying 7 to 10 per cent. interest.

**BROTHERS, TRY IT!**

IF you wish to find a medicine peculiarly adapted to cure the Scrofula, Whitecoat, or Salt Rheum in your children, which are so apt to bring on the CROUP, try Dr. Wm. Hance's BALSAM, a safe and certain remedy for these complaints. It is also pleasant to the taste.

G. J. COLBY, ARCHITECT, WATERBURY, VT., offers information or value to all in planning a house. *Send him your address!*

**THE CENTRAL RAILROAD OF IOWA,**

Connecting St. Louis & St. Paul.

**NOW NEARLY COMPLETED.**

This road is built by a Company of strong capitalists, who have pushed their work forward at a rapid rate.

**ONE MILLION**

OF THE

**FIRST MORTGAGE**

**SEVEN PER CENT. GOLD BONDS**

of the Company remain, which are offered at the very low rate of

*90 and Accrued Interest.*

Among their advantages are:

1st. The road is nearly finished, and the cars are expected to run across the State in 60 days.

2d. The road has been built only of the best material, the iron having been manufactured expressly for it, at a much higher cost than that usually paid.

3d. It runs through a most superb agricultural country.

4th. It has great advantages in carrying coal North and bringing lumber South.

5th. The Mortgage is only $16,000 per mile, while many other roads are bonded to double this amount.

6th. The road is principally owned by bankers and other capitalists, who have invested a large sum in its construction, and who have every reason to take care of its obligations.

7th. A First Mortgage for so small an amount, upon a road so near completion, and in such strong hands, may well be considered a perfectly safe investment.

WE BELIEVE THERE WILL BE NO MORE FAVORABLE TIME TO SELL GOVERNMENTS, AND BUY REALLY FIRST-CLASS RAILROAD SECURITIES—SUCH AS THESE—THAN THE PRESENT, WITH ANY FURTHER DECLINE IN GOLD, GOVERNMENTS MUST DECLINE ALSO.

W. B. SHATTUCK, Treasurer,

NO. 32 PINE STREET, NEW YORK.

After a full examination, we have accepted an agency for the sale of the above First Mortgage Bonds, and desire to recommend them to our customers AS A THOROUGHLY SAFE AS WELL AS PROFITABLE INVESTMENT.

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# The Independent.

## A PSALM OF WEARINESS.

BY HARRIET MCEWEN KIMBALL.

OVERBORNE by journeyings far
Where no resting-places are,
Lured by visions of repose
That in fading mock my woes,
Saviour! may Thy presence be
Unto me
As the shadow cool and sweet
Of a rock in desert heat.

Shelter of the shelterless,
Cover Thou my weariness;
With Thy peace, a tent most fair,
Screen me from this earthly glare,
And Thy consolations shed
On my head,
Sweeter than the balm of sleep
When the eyes forget to weep.

## THE WOMAN WHO WORKED LIKE A MAN.

BY ALICE ROBBINS.

A BRIGHT little shop, a blithe little woman, whose glad smile is enough to open the heart of any customer.

"And what'll you have?" she says, briskly.

"I'll have your cheerfulness, if you will sell it to me—some of it, at least."

She shook her head.

"You'll have to get it in the sunshine, where I do," she said, with a merry little laugh.

Failing that bargain, I turned my attention to thread and needles, and those little matters for which most women have a fancy and a use.

"Things must go well with you," I said, as I paid her. And even the money slipped out of my hand into hers with cheerful alacrity.

"Well; yes, they go better than they used," she replied. "I have seen very hard times all my life long, till now; and so-morrow I am forty."

"You have no family, I suppose. Most women at your time of life show decided signs of age."

She laughed again, a chirp of a laugh, which sounded natural from such a fluttering, canary-like little creature.

"As to that, I think I *do* show my age," she responded. "If I don't, my children do; especially my boy of twenty. I have five children, ma'm."

"How I should like to have a talk with you!" I said, heartily. For under lips and eyes, and in the flitting sadness that crossed her face for one brief second, I saw the shadow of a story that might be told.

"You can talk with me now, if you wish," was her quick reply. "Mansy is through with her supper, and she tends shop evenings. It gives me a good deal of time to sew and read, and she's very womanly for her years."

"Am I to understand, then, that Mansy is your daughter?"

"O, yes. Samantha is her name; but she always goes by the other. She's fifteen years old, but very small; we're not a tall people, we Browns."

Just then Mansy came in, smiling, like her mother. I knew she would. She had the good, honest, open kind of face that wins quicker than beauty, and generally keeps what it wins. Neat was she from head to foot, with that delicate finish that imparts a look of elegance to the plainest garments. There was a glance between mother and daughter that was better than a sermon. It told that *love* had been a ruling power in the household.

"Come in here," said the cheery little shopkeeper, holding a door open, beyond which I could see into a room, neatly and tastefully furnished. And as expected, books and flowers greeted me; the former on shelves, and the latter on stands and in the window-seats.

"Manthy's such a hand for flowers," said the mother. "Seems as if everything she plants grows; and I think a stick would turn into leaves if she put it into the ground. Sit down, I have a little leisure. And now what shall we talk about?"

"Yourself," said I, bluntly.

"O dear, no; I can't say anything of myself. The Lord has been very good to me, and here I am."

"I suppose his promises apply particularly to you. Are you not a widow?"

"Dear me, no. I hope not," was the quick reply; and the light of that love I had divined about glorified all her face. "My husband is living, dear man; but, bless you, he hasn't been off his bed, only when he is lifted off to his sick-chair, for fourteen years."

Here was a new revelation of woman's wonderful capacity. Five children to rear, a husband to support and care for—tenderly, as I knew she did it—and a shop to look after from morning till night. How did she manage?

I suppose my eyes asked the question; for she immediately said:

"It has been hard, uphill work sometimes; but, now we are established here, we are going to get along nicely. I was not brought up to work, I am sorry to say," she added, quickly, "or the struggle would never have been so hard. My father was considered wealthy till he died. He was killed before our own door, thrown from his horse. That was the second year after my marriage. My husband was expecting to go in business with him as a partner; when at the last it was found that my poor father was dreadfully embarrassed by some recent speculations.

"My husband had a little property at that time. We moved into a small house, and took my mother with us. For the first ten years we did very well; but sickness came. Rheumatic fever left my poor husband almost helpless. The bills were large for medicine and doctors; and we soon became nearly destitute. I went round among my friends, and procured plain sewing. My mother and myself sewed ourselves almost to death; and yet we could not make both ends meet. Poverty stared us in the face. My oldest boy was ten, and a good scholar. My baby was only a year old. What to do I did not know; for poor George became worse, seeing the condition of things. I had no trade. Did not know enough of anything in the way of accomplishments to teach any of them.

"Never will I let a child grow up as I did. I remembered then how a friend of my mother's, a progressive woman, had begged her to let me learn dressmaking, when I was a girl, because I showed an unusual aptitude for that kind of work; and my mother repelled the idea with scorn. Living then in luxury, little did she foresee the time when she herself would come down to the stern reality of working for enough to keep soul and body together.

"There was no other way. With deep sorrow, I put my boy out for scanty wages, keeping him up in his lessons at night myself, till my husband became able to apply himself in that way; for, thank God, he has always had the use of his hands and his brains, and is a good scholar himself. Then I bethought me of a plan, and mother entered into its execution heartily; not but what she shed tears in plenty over what she then thought our fallen condition.

"I went round, and found some people willing to entrust me with fine laces and nice clothes to do up; so, you see, in vulgar parlance, I took in washing. After that we always had just enough to pay our bills when Saturday night came round. My little girls, I have three—were all trained to do the housework; and mother and I attended to George and stopped the doctor from coming. Then I got a little stock of goods, and opened a little shop in a small way. Mansy was a great help to me, and has a real talent for business. Then my husband got a little better, and was able to sit up and help me with my accounts. Now he is quite well, and attends to the shop himself, while I go out to work by the day. Mansy is a capital housekeeper, and has a good dinner ready for us when we come home. Then we have our evenings together, and Sundays we all go to church. We have a pew, and I have a good silk dress, and my husband has a new suit of clothes, and we look as well as anybody. We have a good many friends, and are very happy. I have been working like a man for years, and I mean to keep on till I am sixty, and then I shall rest."

"And your husband?"

"He will help me, of course. He is a good deal better, and I hope will be entirely well by that time. I am very glad I learned to work, and that I have been able to do it. I am very happy, and very thankful to God for all his goodness to me and mine."

Such was the story of a woman who worked like a man, and who was not ashamed of it. Such was the story of a woman who had learned to work, and who was not ashamed of it. Such was the story of a woman who had learned to work, and who was not ashamed of it. Such was the story of a woman who had learned to work

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## SEED-CORN.

BY S. H. BROWNE.

Two hundred and fifty years ago—
And a bitter December day!
What bustle and stir on the Mayflower's deck!
They are going to land to-day!

On the cabin-table the compact lies,
Solemnly sealed and signed;
And prayers are uttered and tears are wept
For the staunch ship left behind.

Keen blows the wind, the waves run high,
But strong hands pull the oar;
Andanon those Pilgrim travelers stand
On the wild and wintry shore.

This is the *seed-corn*, heavy and ripe,
Winnowed from chaff and pure;
The need to be sown in a virgin soil,
For a harvest great and sure!

And to-day the yellow and golden grain—
Which sprung from that field first sown—
Broadcast is scattered from main to main,
One vast plantation grown!

Two hundred and fifty years ago!
'Twas an era of toils and tears;
Built looms in the past like a rising star,
With light for the Future's years.

## CHINESE TIMEKEEPERS.

BY N. B. DENNYS.

SOME means of "telling the time" has been discovered or invented by every race extinct or existing, and our friends of the "Flowery Land" have proved their advance in civilization—of a certain sort—by the numerous devices to which they have resorted for that purpose. Considering the pains they have been at to mark and record the minor divisions of days, months, and years, it is, therefore, somewhat astonishing to find that they are destitute of any common era upon which to base their historical records. Such is, however, the case. The longest portion of time included in one designation is the "cycle" of sixty years, so that any event is said to have happened in such and such a cycle. This would be well enough, were it not that they cannot agree as to *when* the first year of the first cycle commenced, and that they differ amongst themselves to the extent of a whole sixty years in fixing the date of the current twelve months. They have never kept up a serial numbering of the cycles, and some native authors commence their reckoning with the first year of the reign of the Emperor Hwang-li, which is supposed to have been B. C. 2607; others again, and the majority, take the date of B. C. 2637, which would make the 75th cycle and the 4509th year of their annals to end with 1873; while a third section take the first year as that answering to B. C. 2277, being 420 years later than the one and 360 than the other. Considerable difficulty is, therefore, experienced in fixing the cyclical date of any event; and it has hence become customary to describe it as having occurred during such a year of the reign of such an emperor of such and such a dynasty, in preference to the less cumbrous method in vogue amongst ourselves.

Despite this grievous stumbling-block to students of their historical records, it may be interesting to give a brief sketch of the methods in use amongst the Chinese of detecting and noting the flight of time. Like all other nations, barbarous or civilized, they have, of course, availed themselves of the movements of the heavenly bodies, to what extent will presently be seen. A race so inventive, however, hit upon artificial methods at a very early period; the most ancient being that in which fire was the chief agent. The well-known story in which King Alfred is credited with constructing time-candles, and, *ex necessitate*, with inventing lanterns to hold them and prevent their flickering, is matched by the far more ancient legend in which China records the ingenuity of the man who made the first "incense sticks"—a combination of sawdust and glue, rolled into long, thin cylinders—which, being notched at certain distances, denoted the period of time occupied as they slowly smouldered away. The "sun-dial of Ahaz" again is modern beside the *reputed* age of the sun-dial in common use throughout the Chinese Empire. It is usually constructed in the form of a small square or oblong box, with a hinged cover. In the center is a magnetic needle, with compass-points engraved on the circumference of the circle, while the hours are marked outside them. The gnomon is formed by a silken thread, which extends from the cover, when opened at right-angles, to the front of the box; and an arrangement is also made for telling the time at night by the moon's shadow. There is, however, some reason to believe that the Chinese dial cannot boast of so high an antiquity as is claimed for it, many asserting that it was introduced by Arabian traders, who shortly after the rise of Mohammedanism visited China in considerable numbers, leaving evidences of their sojourn in a vast tribe of coreligionists, who at the present moment form one of the most powerful sections of the people. Chinese evidence upon any custom or invention which might be referred to foreign sources is by no means trustworthy, nor are their records of marvelous expedients to "tell the time," said to have been adopted in the days long past, one whit more to be relied on. Thus, amongst the legends gravely handed down, we find it recorded that "fowls were trained to announce the hour by their crow"—one "cock-a-doodle-doo" marking one o'clock; two, two o'clock; and so on! Even more marvelous is another account, which states that "fish were trained to note the hour by leaping out of the water." The learned pig and tattling seal fade into insignificance beside these prodigies.

Of purely mechanical contrivances for noting the flight of time, the earliest mentioned, and still most commonly adopted in many parts of the empire, is the water-clock, or "clepsydra" of the Western ancients, termed by the natives "the dripping brazen vessel." Although the principle of its construction is probably familiar to most readers, the following details, published many years ago in the now defunct "Chinese Repository," may prove of interest. The water-clock in Canton city "is placed in a separate room, under the supervision of a man who besides his stipend and his perquisites, obtains a livelihood by selling time-sticks. There are four-covered copper jars standing on a brickwork stairway, the top of each of which is level with the bottom of the one above it. The largest measures 23 inches high and broad, and contains 97½ pints of water; the second is 22 inches high and 23 inches broad; the third is 21 inches high and 20 inches broad; and the lowest is 23 inches high and 19 inches broad. Each is connected with the other by an open trough, along which the water trickles. The wooden index in the lowest jar is set every morning and afternoon at five o'clock by placing the mark on it for these hours even with the cover, through which it rises and indicates the time. The water is dipped out and poured back into the top jar when the index shows the completion of half a day, and the water is renewed every quarter. Two large drums stand in the room, on which the watchmen strike the watches during the night." The "drum-lofts," as the buildings in which these instruments stand are usually termed—their more poetical names being the "sea-sun radiance lofts," or "clear distances," implying apparently their use as observatories of the surrounding neighborhood—are prominent objects in most Chinese cities, those at Canton, Ningpo, Peking, and other populous centers being erected at the junctions of large streets, where they are both conspicuous and easy of access. The "watchmen," who take their time from the drums placed in these buildings, are a source of much annoyance to foreigners, from the useless but incessant noise they keep up during the night. There is a spice of the comic in their accouterments, for, while their supposed object is to keep away and capture thieves, they are, one and all, provided with a conspicuous lantern and a bamboo cylinder, upon which they beat at intervals of less than a minute throughout the night, the number of beats indicating the hour. The natural result of this arrangement is that ill-disposed rogues have full warning of the watchman's approach, should they desire to feloniously enter a house or other building.

But, although the clumsy means above described are still adhered to for public purposes, the Chinese have long been accustomed to the use of clocks and watches. Few houses of the well-to-do are without the one, and no native exquisite considers his outfit complete without not one, but *two*, of the latter. The popular reason given for the practice of wearing a pair of watches is that, if the one stops, the other may be used: "Spose one go sick, t'other makee walkee," as pidgin-English speech expresses it. But its origin lies, we suspect, in the custom formerly observed of selling watches in pairs, the Chinaman being easily persuaded of the necessity, when native watchmakers as yet were not, of having a second, in case of injury to the first. For many years a peculiar style of Swiss watch, with large, strong works, and crystal *back*, was the only description which found a ready sale. But of late hunting-cased and crystal-faced gold and silver watches, of an expensive pattern, have been largely bought, and the trade is one of the briskest carried on, French and Swiss being the chief importers. The watch taken from Yeh, the once viceroy of Canton, is now in the possession of a friend of the writer's, and boasts a handsomely enameled case, studded at the circumference with pearls of some value; indicating considerable luxury on the part of the richer Chinese in such matters. Many shops now exist in various large cities where watches are cleaned and repaired with creditable dexterity; but few, if any, natives have as yet succeeded in manufacturing such an article. Clocks, on the contrary, have been made for a considerable period in China, and keep fair time—quite as good, at all events, as is kept by the cheap "American clocks" once so popular in this country. When the summer-palace at Yuen Ming Yuen was burnt by the allied army, large quantities of clocks of European manufacture were found in the buildings. Many of them were of a most costly nature, and some were recognized as gifts to the emperors from various foreign potentates. The affection evinced by the Chinese for timekeepers, of whatever description, is in fact a curious trait in the character of a people by whom the value of time and punctuality are practically ignored.

A word in conclusion upon Chinese divisions of time. The primary table is simple enough, and starting with the minute closely resembles our own—15 *fun* or minutes making 1 *keh*, or quarter of 15 minutes; 8 quarters one *shih chén*, or hour (two hours of our time); and 12 *shih chén* one day. 10 days make a *sun*, or decade; 29 (or 30) days a month; and 12 (or 13) months a year. (The "second," called *miau* in Chinese, is of foreign origin, and is, therefore, excluded from native tables.) The year of 12 months contains 354 days; that of 13, which occurs every four years, when an extra month is intercolated, contains 384. As with us, there are four seasons—spring, summer, autumn, and winter; but spring commences with the first day of the new year, which usually falls about the middle of February.

## Farm and Garden.

### FERN-CASES.

CONSTRUCTION.—No. II.

THE growth of pot-plants in houses where gaslight and furnace-heat are combined seems to be a failure, with few exceptions. To avoid disappointment at seeing the leaves of our best plants turn yellow and drop off, also our buds develop into imperfect blossoms, we bring forward the fern-case as an argument against window-plants, as a refuge in distress from failure in their culture, and as a never-failing source of interest and pleasure to those who understand and would study its principles and management. And, first, let us look at the principles upon which a fern-case should be constructed that is to be used for ferns and that class of plants. There are, doubtless, many of our readers who have had, at some time, ferns under bell-glasses, glass shades, or perhaps in small Wardian-cases. If so, they have noticed in all these smaller shades and cases that the moisture collects so thickly inside the case as to obstruct and actually prevent their seeing the plants. Have they ever asked themselves the question, Why does this moisture collect in such quantities? If not, let them for a moment look at the subject, and inquire, Where does this moisture come from. The answer is, From the earth and the plants, from exhalation—that is, vegetable perspiration. Now we will answer the question, Why does this moisture collect so largely? Simply because we confine it, and prevent its escape and evaporation, by making our case air-tight. The tendency of a ventilated case is to equalize the temperature of the case and the room in which it stands. Our case then should be made air-tight, for the purpose not only of confining this moisture, but for keeping an abundant and constant supply of it. We cannot expect to grow ferns in a moist atmosphere for some days, and then open our case for an hour or so, any more than we can expect persons to subject themselves to exposure after sickness. It cannot be done with impunity. The confinement of ferns in closely-glazed cases has the tendency to make their growth delicate; and the sudden opening of our case, allowing the moisture to escape, meanwhile introducing dry and dusty air from our rooms in its place, is against all reason. Many people, however, pursue this course and fail, not knowing the reasons for it; while others, who scarcely ever open their cases, and never water them but once after planting, have unquestionable success, and are looked upon frequently as possessing some knowledge limited to a select few. We see, therefore, we need no ventilation. Now as to drainage, we would ask the question, Why should we have drainage to a fern-case? And yet we do see it advised frequently; and cases with drainage facilities, sometimes simple, sometimes elaborate, are offered for sale as an essential to the successful culture of ferns. Let us look for a moment at the argument against drainage, and thus answer our question. We know that one great advantage of the fern-case over pot-plants is that we avoid the constant watering which the latter require. In this way we place our plants out of the danger they would be in at the hands of the careless and forgetful. Our case forms, as it were, an asylum for plants; for how many of the so-called window-plants are bare stalks, or nearly so, from want of regular watering, which many forget is as important to the plants as our daily food is to us. The moisture which collects on the glass of our case is not of sufficient importance to require special or ordinary provision for drainage, and certainly there can be no other source of trouble on this score. Then our question is answered by stating that there is nothing to drain off, and consequently what need is there of drainage? If our case is one made of wood and glass, or some kind of metal in the place of wood, we shall require a pan to hold the earth for our plants. Zinc pans answer every purpose, combining economy and durability. Tin will rust, and soon wear out in consequence. Experience proves that no pan in which we intend to grow ferns should be less than four inches deep, unless our plants are all dwarf specimens; then an inch less in depth will answer, although we run the risk of crowding the roots too much. Too much depth is objectionable. A safe rule is this: that no ferns the fronds of which are over eight inches in length should be planted in a pan less than four inches in depth. Pans five to six inches deep will be required for larger ferns, and will answer all purposes.

Those who try the shallow and deep pans will soon find how much more freely their plants grow when plenty of space is allowed for their roots. A side opening is to be preferred in all cases, whether by hinged doors or sliding panes. In this way we avoid reaching in at the top of a case, which, while extremely awkward, frequently results in the disfiguring or breaking off of the fronds. One word as regards the hight of a case. A fern will frequently develop a greater length of frond when grown in a fern-case than it would under different circumstances. Let us, therefore, make our case high enough, and allow all fronds to expand freely and develop perfectly, even if of unusual length. We may otherwise get an imperfect specimen. We have frequently seen them where their growth has been checked by the top glass; and, from having no chance to go higher, the frond lays flattened out against the glass, where it collects an undue amount of moisture, which soon causes it to mould, or damp off. This makes an unsightly object, and may endanger fine specimens. There are a great many persons who cannot afford to have expensive cases, and yet who are fond of ferns, and would gladly embrace the opportunity to be able to have them. Putting aside all unnecessary expense in procuring a fern-case, let us go to a dealer in glassware and buy a "cake-cover." If we live near a pottery, or know an obliging dealer in the same, we can easily get a dish, or pan, made of the porous material used for flower-pots. This dish should be about four inches deep, and large enough to inclose our "cake-cover" when the rim of it rests on the earth, with which you can now fill your dish nearly full. We have also seen the pan made for a similar case by taking a round box, such as grocers frequently have, and in which cheeses come, and by a little skill made quite ornamental. This can be done by taking acorns, small larch cones, moss, and pieces of bark, and by the use of tacks or glue covering our box sides completely. Thus what was but a short time ago an uninviting box now becomes transformed into an ornamental case. The person who will spend a leisure hour or two on something of this sort will be surprised at the results; and how much more do we value the result of our labor in prodneing things which are not owned by every one. Some will make cases simple in form, that will be none the less attractive on that account; while those desirous of growing ferns on a large scale will either make or have made the elaborate cases which we sometimes see. In making a case of any size or shape, remember the simple principles upon which it should be constructed, and you will then be sure of good results when you come to grow your ferns. The double cube is one of the simplest and best shapes for a case; but they can be constructed square, octagonal, or rectangular, to suit different tastes. We cannot advise the copying of greenhouses, or castles, or any fancy forms for fern-cases; but think the simple forms and more solidly-built cases the most satisfactory. It must be borne in mind that our case will be much heavier after the addition of the earth; and we must make the necessary arrangements to move it easily, should we wish at any time to do so. A table devoted expressly to that purpose will be the best thing for a fernery. It should be strongly made, and easily moved by the use of castors. If your case is heavy, use none but the strongest and broadest brass castors, and discard wooden or rubber ones as useless. The fern-cases made of shades or bell-glasses can be suspended very nearly as well as rested on a table or shelf. We have seen some of these hanging ferneries which were very pretty and ornamental; but the objection to them is, we think, the want of depth to the pan or dish. Some of the most useful cases we have ever seen were made by setting the glass in frames for sides, ends, and top, and fastening these frames at the corners by the use of hooks; thus our case is set up and ready for use. It is, of course, taken to pieces by unhooking the corners and laying the frames together, making a flat, portable parcel, with the exception of the pan, which will not bear the folding process, but must be firm and well-united at the corners. We will now say a few words on the management of ferneries. The secret of managing ferneries successfully seems to be simple, and told in a few words—viz., water well after planting, shut up your case, and leave it to itself. These are few words and simple; and if persons who have fern-cases will content themselves with laying aside their ideas of watering ferneries, which cannot be treated as Waltonian cases and window-plants, they will meet with the reward they deserve. The most successful winter we ever had with ferns was one in which we only watered our case once after planting, and only opened it a few times during the seven months succeeding November 1st, and then to remove dead fronds. If you water sufficiently on planting, and keep your case tight, you will have no occasion to water it again; for there will be no loss of moisture by evaporation. Some fronds will, of course, die, and turn brown; others will be eaten in places by insects. All such cases must be met promptly by removing these fronds, which would otherwise mar the beauty and freshness of the collection. We hope some day to see the Wardian-case more generally used and their advantages over window-plants more fully understood. Their construction is simple and their management easy.

### AGRICULTURAL NOTES.

THE BEST SITE FOR AN ORCHARD.

Dodart first observed that trees pushed their branches in a direction parallel to the surface of the earth. If a tree stands on a steep hillside, it pushes both toward the hill and the declivity; but on both sides it still preserves its branches parallel to the surface. The most fruitful orchards and most fertile trees are those planted on a declivity, and the steeper it is, though not quite a precipice, the more prolific they prove. It is well known that the spreading of trees always renders them fruitful. On a plane they incline to shoot upward; and therefore art is employed by skillful gardeners, and applied in various ways, to check their perpendicular and promote their lateral growth. But this point is obtained on a declivity by Nature.

A SWINDLING DODGE ON FARMERS.

Swindlers in the interior towns of Greene County have been victimizing farmers to a considerable extent. The *modus operandi* is about as follows: Agents, or persons who represent themselves to be such, call on a farmer, and, after bargaining with them for their butter, will pay enough cash down to bind the bargain and secure the consignment. The dairies are sent to the city for sale, and that is the last the farmer hears of the butter. The *Recorder* says "that quite a number of farmers thereabouts have also been swindled by the old method of signing an agreement to act as agent for the sale of some patent. This paper, which the swindler calls an agreement, and which at first glance appears to be one, is a cunningly devised negotiable note. A man in Catskill had to pay $325 on one."

HARNESS.

Every part of the harness should fit. It should be kept both clean and soft. Frequently the collar becomes covered with a compound of dirt and sweat, which makes it uneven, and should be looked after as often as necessary. When the harness gets wet, hang it on several pins, instead of one, so that it will not curl out of shape when drying. Always grease or oil after wetting, and before it is quite dry, if you would preserve the leather and make the harness easy for the animal. A harness which is cared for will last twice or three times as long as one that is neglected. Use neat's-foot oil, and always keep a greasy woolen cloth to wipe and rub the harness with.

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August 2d, 1870.

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Assets, Jan. 1, 1869.....$1,486,271 31
Income for 1869: Premiums and Interest.... 1,344,026 19
$2,830,297 50

EXPENDITURES FOR 1869.

Death Claims, Surrendered and Lapsed Policies....$380,505 80
Expenses and Commissions..... 354,833 16
Dividends.... 53,212 03
788,550 99

Assets, Jan. 1, 1870.....$2,041,746 51
New Policies issued 1869, 5,158, insuring.....$11,426,582 00
Policies in force Jan. 1, 1870, 10,997, insuring...24,626,070 00

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## Financial & Commercial.

### AN INCONVERTIBLE CURRENCY.

PAPER money, whether in the form of government notes or bank issues, convertible at the option of the holder into coin, and hence practically equivalent thereto, readily passes from hand to hand at the same value. Though easily produced in indefinite quantities, it can never be issued in greater amounts than can at all times be exchanged for coin without losing its convertible character; and hence the prime ground of its value. Its convertibility is the essential circumstance that maintains its value at the level of the coin standard and limits its quantity. Having this attribute, it is then a great convenience to business, since it answers all the purposes of a purely metallic currency, while economizing the power of the latter.

The case, however, is very different with an *inconvertible* paper currency, taking the place of gold and silver, and, in fact, superseding them. Such a currency, though occasionally necessary to bridge over an extreme exigency, and even advocated by some monetary theorists, does not and in the nature of things cannot give the people the best form of money. Its essential defect consists in the fact that it contains in itself no elements to fix its *exchange value*, and rests on none to supply this defect. The mere act of printing certain words on a piece of paper, and then calling it a dollar bill or a thousand dollar bill, bestows upon it no such character. Whether such a paper note be worth anything or not depends upon what it represents. If based upon government securities as its guarantee, then in what are these securities payable? Are they also payable in paper notes? If so, then they are no better than the notes themselves. We then have a promise to pay guaranteed by another promise to pay. Such a monetary scheme begins with paper and ends with paper. It supplies no ultimate intrinsic and fixed value into which paper money may be converted by exchange. This is its radical defect, as resulting from the very nature of the currency and equally shown by experience. It can never be more than a temporary system; and even then it entails evils in the disturbance of values, which must afterward be corrected by the resumption of specie payments.

The cost production of paper money is so trifling that it can be issued in unlimited quantities; and hence, having in itself no adequate basis for its representative value, it is almost certain, if inconvertible into coin, to depreciate by its mere quantity, and as it depreciates to raise the prices of all other commodities. It has no limit except the pleasure of the issuers; and generally it will be their pleasure and their interest, and perhaps their necessity, to flood the people with this kind of money. The assignats of France during the French Revolution, the notes of the Bank of England during the period of its long suspension of specie payment, the Continental money of our own Revolution, the notes of the Confederate States, and our own greenback circulation are memorable instances of the depreciation of paper money when issued on any other basis than that of its convertibility into coin. The moment this feature is withdrawn from it depreciation begins, increasing just in proportion to the quantity issued, and bringing upon the people all the evils and uncertainties of a depreciated currency. The thing has been sufficiently tried to show by a very reliable experience that an inconvertible paper currency is by no means a suitable standard of values.

There was, we freely grant, an urgent necessity during the Rebellion for the issue of greenbacks, which, although made legal-tenders, are simply the promises of the Government to pay so much money in *coin*. They served a good purpose for the time being. There is now an equal necessity that these greenbacks should be redeemed in coin at the earliest moment in which it is practicable, in view of all the interests involved. Their present value depends on their prospective coin redemption. Let it be once settled that they are never to be thus redeemed, and they would soon be nearly worthless. Specie payment is hence the final point to which the country must at last come. This and this only meets the case.

### BANK-NOTES AND CHECKS.

A CORRESPONDENT asks us to say a word about "bank-notes and checks considered in their relations to each other and the system of commercial exchanges." The matter is very simple to those who understand it; and, if we know what is the precise point in respect to which our correspondent desires information, we could more readily gratify his wish.

Let us, then, say that a bank-note is simply a piece of paper, containing the promise of the bank issuing it to pay a given sum of money on demand; and that a bank is a legal corporation, authorized to receive deposits and make such issues of its notes. The notes themselves, though not money, are current among the people, just as if they were such, on the credit of the bank issuing them. So long as they can be converted at the option of the holder into money, they answer all its purposes in the system of commercial exchanges. They economize the use and increase the power of money, since they may be issued in amounts very much larger than the actual reserve kept on hand for their payment. The monetary reserve necessary to sustain and redeem a bank-note circulation need not, in ordinary times, be one-fourth of the amount of the circulation itself; and for this reason banking institutions add immensely to the commercial power of money.

Checks, on the other hand, are simply drafts or orders for the payment of money, drawn by private individuals or corporate bodies against deposits assumed to be made to the credit of the drawer with some bank or banker. Provided the credit of the drawer and the bank or banker be good, then a check in relation to the receiver answers all the purposes of bank-notes, or even specie, since he can convert it into either at his option, or deposit it to his own credit in a bank, and then draw against it at a future time. Banks receive checks drawn upon each other; and this largely widens the sphere of check transactions as a substitute for the use of both money and bank-notes, especially when we add the operations of a clearing house, which is simply an organization of bank officers to settle the daily check transactions between the banks which they represent.

The machinery of exchange, or the transfer of values, consists then: first, in money as the legal standard of value; secondly, in bank-notes as the representatives of this money; and, thirdly, in checks as the representatives of both. In cities where a large amount of business is done, requiring a corresponding number of banks, nine-tenths of the commercial exchanges take place through the medium of checks. Dispense with their use, and all the bank-notes, greenbacks, and specie in the country would be entirely inadequate to conduct the business of trade. These checks, however, cannot become a general paper circulation, and thus take the place of bank-notes, as suggested by our correspondent. They have no character, and, resting on the credit of private individuals to so large an extent, they can have none sufficiently general and at the same time reliable to become a circulation among the people. A bank-note may be used any number of times, and under a suitable banking system in any part of the same country; but manifestly the check system admits of no such expansion, either as to the number of uses or territorial extent. Checks, as an appendage to money and bank-notes, add greatly to the power of both; but as a substitute for such notes they would undoubtedly prove a failure. The essential principles of the machinery for the transfer of values are just right as they are.

### THE COST OF THE WAR.

THE financial figures contained in the last report of Commissioner Wells are worthy of careful study. The outstanding debt of the United States on the 7th of March, 1861, amounted to $76,455,299 28. The receipts of the Government from internal revenue, customs, lands, direct tax, and miscellaneous sources for the first four years thereafter (from April 1st, 1861, to April 1st, 1865) amounted to $673,799,091 94. The receipts from the same sources during the next four years—namely, from April 1st, 1865, to June 30th, 1869 were $1,908,567,625 09. The aggregate of these receipts for the two periods, eight years in all, amounts to $2,584,367,317 03. The national debt, less cash on hand, and the sinking fund, on the 30th of June, 1869, was $2,480,002,480 58. From this deduct the debt at the commencement of the war, ($76,455,299 28), and we have, as the sum borrowed for war purposes and not repaid from the receipts of the Government, as above indicated, $2,412,547,181 30. Add this debt to the receipts of the eight previous years, and we have $4,906,914,498 33, as representing the expenditures of the Government during this period. From this amount deduct $825,000,000 for the ordinary expenses of the Government, that would have been incurred without the war, and we have $4,171,914,498 33 as the actual cost of the war to the Government of the United States up to June 30th, 1869. From this cost deduct the national debt as it stood on the 30th of June, 1869, and we have $1,682,912,017 75 as the amount which the Government has received and paid out for war purposes during the period of eight years. In this short period the people, through the Government, have actually paid this proportion of the expenses that were incidental to the war, leaving against them an outstanding debt, less the assets on hand, to the amount of $2,489,002,480 58 on the 30th of June, 1869. Who will say that this is not doing well, or that the same people cannot or will not liquidate the remaining indebtedness?

These figures, however, do not present the whole case as growing out of the war. The value of the pensions, if capitalized, which have been paid by the Government for the past eight years would amount to about $200,000,000. To this we must add state, city, county, and town debts, incurred mainly on account of the war, and also the expenses by states, cities, counties, and towns arising from the same cause, but not funded, and we have an increase of $923,000,000 to the cost of the war. We must add again an estimate of the loss to the loyal states flowing from the diversion and suspension of industry and the reduction of the American marine and carrying trade, which Mr. Wells sets down at $1,200,000,000. Add to this $2,700,000,000 as representing the direct expenditures and loss of property by the Confederate States in consequence of the war. Put, now, all these expenses and losses together, and the war account stands as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| War expenses of the U. S. Government | $4,171,914,498 33 |
| Capitalized pensions, if purchased | 200,000,000 00 |
| Debts and expenses of states, cities, counties, and towns | 923,000,000 00 |
| Estimated losses to the loyal states | 1,200,000,000 00 |
| Expenses and losses of the Confederate States | 2,700,000,000 00 |
| | $9,194,914,498 33 |

These statistics represent in round numbers what the country has paid, in the way of expenditures and losses, for the war. It would be a false inference to conclude that this enormous amount of wealth has actually been sunk and gone out of existence. A part of it has been destroyed; but, had this been true of the whole, the loss would have ruined the nation. War expenses are always, to a considerable extent, simply exchanges of property, and also consumptions of what would otherwise have been consumed. They must hence never be set down as a total loss. We are, indeed, somewhat surprised that Mr. Wells takes no notice of this modifying consideration in making up his war statistics.

The exhibit of the receipts and the expenditures of the Government, and also the reduction of the national debt since the termination of the war, as presented by Mr. Wells, shows the wonderful recuperation of the American people within the last four years. The total reduction of the debt since the 1st of September, 1865, amounts to $304,129,836 20, and for the current calendar year (1869) to $87,147,466 02. The receipts and expenditures during this period are as follows:

| *Years.* | *Receipts.* | *Expenditures.* | *Excess of Receipts.* |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1865-66..... | $490,634,789 68 | $520,809,540 49 | $27,781,620 81 |
| 1866-67..... | 490,034,010 27 | 346,729,129 23 | 143,304,880 04 |
| 1867-68..... | 405,638,268 23 | 377,340,264 86 | 28,297,998 46 |
| 1868-69..... | 370,943,547 21 | 321,496,099 75 | 49,453,149 46 |

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### DRY GOODS.

THE closing week of the year is always a season of inactivity in dry goods, except among the city retailers, with whom it has been remarkably lively the last fortnight. But the busy season is at an end for the importers, commission-houses, auctioneers, and jobbers, and but little will be done from the present time until the 1st of February. The sales of the past week from first hands have been confined mostly to prints.

There has been but few failures or business changes during the year; but we hear of a good many reconstructions to take place in some of the leading commission and jobbing houses, and of a few that will be dissolved and closed up. There will be some new firms, as a matter of course; and, as there will be a greater number of people to be clothed the next year than there was the last, and there is not likely to be any diminution of the means of paying, there must necessarily be an increase of business. Cautious and conservative merchants used to think that the dry goods business had reached its hight thirty years ago, when all the jobbing trade was done in Pearl street, and nobody was wild enough to dream of a dry-goods store above Wall street. But for the coming thirty years the business will increase more rapidly than it has done for the last thirty.

In domestic cottons of every description the market is quiet, and without quotable changes since our last report.

Printing cloths continue very firm, and the transactions are comparatively large. The contract price for delivery in January and February of 64 standards in the gray, extra quality, is 7½ cents.

In prints there is more doing than in any other description of cotton goods, and prices are firm with an upward tendency.

The demand for woolens is quite limited and the market is quiet. For cloths the chief customers are the clothiers, who are also making their selections of light cassimeres for spring. Prices are well maintained, but the languid state of the market renders the quotations nominal to a considerable degree.

Foreign goods are without any special change. The low price of the raw material keeps cotton fabrics in a rather uncertain state. But there is so little doing, except for a few choice styles of goods required for city trade, that prices are not well established, and will not be until after the 1st of February, when the movement for the spring trade commences, and the changes in the condition of the Prussian-French war may lead to very important modifications of the market.

### BANKING AND FINANCIAL.

HARVEY FISK. A. S. HATCH.

☞ FISK & HATCH,

BANKERS AND DEALERS IN GOVERNMENT SECURITIES,

No. 5 NASSAU STREET,
NEW YORK, Dec. 24, 1870.

**FUNDING FIVE-TWENTY BONDS.**

Within the past three months a very large amount of Five-Twenty Bonds have been funded through our office into the FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS of the CENTRAL PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY, besides large sales of the same securities for new investments.

We deal in Central Pacific Bonds the same as in Government Securities, and regard them as affording the desired medium for funding Five-Twenty Bonds, *without reduction of interest and with unimpaired security.*

☞ *They are well known, and have a ready market in all the money centers of this country and Europe, are daily quoted at the Stock Exchange, and can be sold at current market prices as readily as the bonds of the Government.*

We keep a supply of these Securities on hand, and furnish them at current market price, which to-day is 92¾.

We continue, as heretofore, to buy and sell Government Bonds, make Collections, receive Deposits, subject to check at sight without notice, and allow interest on balances, and do a general banking business.

FISK & HATCH.

### NEW YORK CATTLE MARKET

FOR WEEK ENDING TUESDAY, DEC. 27TH, 1870.

[REPORTED EXPRESSLY FOR THE INDEPENDENT.]

BEEF CATTLE.—The demand has been very light, but prices are unchanged.

MILCH COWS.—The demand is moderate, and prices are without quotable change.

VEAL CALVES.—There has been a good demand at full prices.

SHEEP.—The market is very dull, and prices are weaker.

SWINE are firm and higher.

PRICES OF BEEF CATTLE AT THE PRINCIPAL MARKET PLACES.

| | *This week.* | *Last week.* |
|---|---|---|
| Extra | —@16 | 15¾@16c. |
| First quality | 15 @15¾ | 15 @15¾ |
| Second quality | 14 @14¾ | 13½@13¾ |
| Third quality | 11½@13½ | 11 @13c. |
| Inferior | 10 @11½ | 10 @11c. |
| Average of all sales | — @13¾ | — @13¾ |

GENERAL QUOTATIONS.

COWS AND CALVES.

| | *This week.* | *Last week.* |
|---|---|---|
| Choice | $55@ 65 | $60@$100 |
| Good | 45@ 50 | 45@ 55 |
| Fair | 35@ 40 | 30@ 35 |
| Inferior and Common | 20@ 25 | 20@ 25 |

VEAL CALVES.

| | *This week.* | *Last week.* |
|---|---|---|
| Extra and Choice | 12 @13½ | 12 @13¾ |
| Good | 10½@11½ | 10½@11½ |
| Common | 8½@ 9¾ | 8½@ 9¾ |
| Inferior | 6 @ 8 | 6 @ 8 |

SHEEP AND LAMBS.

| | *This week.* | *Last week.* |
|---|---|---|
| Choice | per lb. 7¾@ 7¾ | 7¾@ 7¾ |
| Extra | " 7 @ 7¼ | 7 @ 7¼ |
| Good | " 6½@ 6 | 6½@ 6 |
| Fair | " 5 @ 5¼ | 5 @ 5¼ |
| Common | " 4 @ 4½ | 4 @ 4½ |
| Extra Lambs | " —@— | —@— |
| Good | " —@— | —@— |
| Common to Fair | " —@— | —@— |

SWINE.

| | Live, per lb. | Dressed, per lb |
|---|---|---|
| Corn-fed | — @ — | — @ — |

## POSTSCRIPT.

### LATEST DRY GOODS QUOTATIONS.

IMPORTANT TO EVERY MERCHANT IN THE UNITED STATES.

MONDAY EVENING, December 19, 1870.

THE following are the wholesale net cash prices of all the leading styles of Domestic Dry Goods sold in the New York market. It is confidently believed that this weekly information, specially reported to THE INDEPENDENT (and more particularly than to any other newspaper in the city,) is worth, to every dry goods merchant, ten times the subscription price of the paper.

PRINTS.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Merrimack W | 13¾ | Wamsutta | 17¾ |
| Merrimack, D | 11 | Wauregan | 10½ |
| Cocheco, fs | 11½ | Arnold | 8½ |
| Spragues | 11½ | Hamilton | 11 |
| Pacific | 11 | Richmond | 10½ |
| American | 10½ | Gloucester | 10½ |
| Dunnells | 10½ | Mourning | 10½ |
| Allens | 10½ | Lancaster | 10¾ |
| Manchester | 10½ | Oriental | 10½ |

GINGHAMS.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Lancaster | 15 | Roanoke | 13½ |
| Berkshire | 12½ | Glasgow | 14 |

BROWN SHEETINGS.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Augusta, A | 14 | Pepperell, R | 13½ |
| Lawrence, C | 14½ | " R | 13½ |
| " F | 14 | " N | 10½ |
| " G | 13 | " O | 9½ |
| " H | 14 | " P | 12½ |
| Pacific Extra | 14 | " S | 8½ |
| " H | 12½ | " W | 10½ |
| " L | 11 | " 10-4 | 24 |
| Atlantic, A | 14 | " 9-4 | 22 |
| " H | 13 | " 8-4 | 20 |
| " P | 12 | Boot, R | 13 |
| " D | 10 | " O | 10 |
| Amoskeag | 14 | " C | 8 |
| " A | 10 | Appleton, A | 14 |
| Saco, A | 14 | Laconia, A | 14 |
| " H | 13 | " H | 13 |
| " C | 11 | Lyman, A | 14 |
| " E | 10 | " H | 13 |
| Exeter, A | 14 | Tremont | 14 |
| " H | 13 | Indian Orchard, A | 13 |
| Medford | 14 | " H | 12 |
| Augusta | 14 | " B | 11½ |
| " | 10 | " W | 10 |
| Pittsfield, A | 14 | Great Falls, H | 14 |
| Kennebec | 14 | " M | 11 |
| Bedford | 14 | " S | 10 |
| Pocasset | 14 | Dwight, A | 14 |
| " | 8½ | " H | 11 |
| Newmarket, A | 14 | | |

BLEACHED MUSLIN.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| New York Mills | 44 | Reynolds, AA | 11½ |
| Wamsutta | 44 | Mystic Lake | 12 |
| " | 39 | Bolton & Sons | 44 13½ |
| Sucarora | 44 | " | 39 |
| Bates | 44 | Lonsdale | 44 13½ |
| White Rock | 44 | Cambric | 11 |
| Forestdale | 36 | Hill | 12 |
| Masonville | 44 | Barfield | 44 14½ |
| Blackstone | 44 | " | 39 |
| Hope | 44 | Richmond | 44 13 |
| Langdon | 44 | " | 39 |
| " 42-inch | 14½ | Jaconet, 36-in. | 14 |
| " 36-inch | 13 | " 32-inch | 13½ |
| Waurega | 44 | " 30-inch | 12½ |
| Pepperell | 44 | Great Falls | 44 10½ |
| " | 39 | " | 39 9½ |
| " | 36 | " | 36 8½ |
| " | 10-4 | " | 10-4 25½ |
| Utica | 7-8 | Red Bank | 44 10½ |
| " | 8-4 | " | 39 9½ |
| " | 9-4 | Waltham, X | 11½ |
| " | 10-4 | " 42-inch | 15½ |
| Boot, R | 44 | " | 39 13½ |
| " | 39 | " | 36 12½ |
| " | 36 | " | 10-4 32½ |
| Androscoggin | 44 | Bay Mills | 44 12½ |
| " | 39 | Green, C | 44 14½ |
| Dwight | 7-8 | Amoskeag, C | 44 14½ |
| Lone Star | 12 | | |

DENIMS.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Amoskeag | 26 | Otis Company, CC | 18 |
| Ford | 21 | " BF | 21 |
| Lane Hill | 20 | " AAA | 23 |
| Work on Man's | 22 | Warren, Brown | 18 |
| Haymaker | 20 | Columbian, Brown | 20 |
| Manchester | 20 | Columbian | 22 |

STRIPED SHEETINGS.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Amoskeag | 21 | Whittenton, A | 17½ |
| York | 21 | " BB | 15½ |
| Uncasville | 19 | " C | 13½ |
| American | 13½ | Eagle | 12 |
| Hamilton | 20 | Thorndike | 13½ |
| Everett | 13½ | Haymaker | 18 |

TICKS.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| York, 32-inch | 26 | Swift River | 16 |
| York, 30-inch | 21 | Methuen, AA | 26 |
| Amoskeag, A | 30 | Hamilton, Regular | 32 |
| " B | 28 | Willow Brook | 26 |
| " C | 25 | " A. Extra | 30 |
| " D | 22 | " Extra | 28 |
| Conestoga, Gold Mt | 34 | Hampden, OD | 30 |
| " Extra | 28 | Pearl River | 25 |
| | | Pittsfield | 20½ |

CORSET JEANS.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Amoskeag | 11½ | Pepperell | 13½ |
| Laconia | 11½ | Bates | 10 |
| Hamilton, Patents | 14½ | Indian Orchard | 10 |
| New Market | 10 | Everett | 13½ |

BROWN DRILLS.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Amoskeag | 14 | Appleton | 14 |
| Pequot | 14 | Tremont | 13 |
| Lonsdale | 14 | Augusta | 13 |
| Bank A | 14 | Wamsutta | 12½ |

DELAINES.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Pacific | 18 | Lowell | 18 |
| Hamilton | 18 | Stevens | 18 |
| Manchester | 18 | Armures | 19 |

CANTON FLANNELS.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Hamilton | 17 | Salmon Falls, AA | 18½ |
| Lacouia | 16½ | Androscoggin, A | 16 |
| Pemberton, C | 16½ | Manchester | 18½ |
| " D | 15½ | Ellerslie, O | 20 |
| Nashua A | 15½ | " O | 20 |

HOWES & MACY, Bankers (the same as an incorporated bank), No. 30 Wall St., New York. Four per cent. interest allowed on deposits, and collections made everywhere at current rates.


BOYNTON'S

Portable and Brick Set Furnaces, for heating all Classes of Private and Public Buildings, with Anthracite, Bituminous Coal, or Wood; Family and Hotel Low and Double Oven Ranges; Improved Baltimore Fire Place Heaters; Parlor Furnaces and Double Heaters; Cooking, Parlor, Office, School, Laundry, and Depot Stoves, have for many years been known as the most desirable goods of this class in the country, and have been more generally and extensively used. Thirty years of practical experience have given us a thorough knowledge of the business, in all its branches, such as few possess. We now have a most complete stock of the above goods.

We have REDUCED our PRICES to correspond with the times, and have increased our Facilities for Manufacturing, and are prepared to fill orders to any extent.

We also guarantee the work we do ourselves to be perfectly satisfactory.

RICHARDSON, BOYNTON & CO.,
SEND FOR CIRCULARS. 334 WATER ST., N.Y.

NEW YEAR'S PRESENTS.

A. T. STEWART & CO.

WILL OFFER ON MONDAY, DEC. 26th,
REAL INDIA CAMEL'S-HAIR SHAWLS, FROM
EXTRA ELEGANT AND COSTLY BRUSSELS
POINT LACE AND LACE GOODS,
PARIS-MADE WRAPPERS, SILK, AND POBLIN
SUITS, CLOAKS, AND TRAINS,
PARIS-MADE VELVET AND CLOTH
POLONAISES,
VELVETS AND PLUSH SACKS, CLOAKS,
AND
EMBROIDERIES IN EVERY VARIETY,
LADIES' HATS, BONNETS, FEATHERS,
FLOWERS,
ELEGANT SASHES AND SASH RIBBONS, etc.
PARIS AND VIENNA FANCY GOODS,
GENTLEMEN'S AND BOYS' OUTFITTING
GOODS, UNDERGARMENTS, HOSIERY,
GLOVES, etc., IN GREAT VARIETY IN THE
LATEST LONDON STYLES,
ALSO,
RICH GENTLEMEN'S SMOKING JACKETS, DRESSING GOWNS, etc.
FORMING THE LARGEST ASSORTMENT TO BE FOUND IN THIS CITY.
AT PRICES LOWER THAN EVER.
BROADWAY, FOURTH AVE., 9th and 10th streets.

NEW YEAR'S PRESENTS.

A. T. STEWART & CO.

HAVE JUST RECEIVED PER STEAMSHIP ——, DIRECT FROM MARSEILLES, AN ADDITIONAL INSTALLMENT OF POPULAR SILKS,
WHICH WILL BE OFFERED ON MONDAY, DEC. 26, AT THE EXTRAORDINARY LOW PRICES OF LAST WEEK—VIZ.
NEW STRIPED FANCY SILKS, DOUBLE-SIDED, 75 CENTS PER YARD.
NEW STRIPED FANCY SILKS, HEAVIER GRADE, $1 CENTS PER YARD.
RECENTLY SOLD AT $1 PER YARD.
TWO CASES OF GRISAILLE STRIPED SILKS, PERFECTLY NEW, $1 PER YARD.
THEIR PRESENT VALUE, $1 50 PER YARD.
HEAVY LYONS BLACK DRESS SILKS, 61 $2 AND $2 75 PER YARD.
PLAIN DRESS SILKS, IN LIGHT AND DARK COLORS, $2 75 AND $3 75 PER YARD.
AMERICAN BLACK SILKS, GUARANTEED TO CUT AND WEAR WELL, $1 PER YARD.
FRENCH AND ITALIAN SPECIAL ALL QUALITIES IN SHADES, IN CONTRAST $2 PER YARD.
BROADWAY, FOURTH AVE., 9th and 10th Sts.

HOLIDAY GOODS.
RICH LACES.

POINT AND VALENCIENNES LACE SETS.
RUCHES, CAPES.
COLLARETTES, BARBES, COIFFURES, etc.
ROMAN AND VELVET SASHES.
SCARFS, BOWS, etc.
FINE FRENCH FANCY GOODS,
Suitable for Holiday Presents.

MILLER & GRANT,
879 BROADWAY,
BETWEEN EIGHTEENTH AND NINETEENTH STS.
Country orders forwarded by Mail or Express.

GENUINE FURS.

ARNOLD, CONSTABLE & CO.

will offer during the SEASON SPECIAL INDUCEMENTS in

LADIES' AND GENTS' FURS,
SABLE, MINK, ERMINE,
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